Saipan Tribune

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Volume XXXII, Issue No. 89

House honors Tudela's dedication to beautifying CNMI. **PAGE 2**

Three arrested for alleged illegal possession of 'ice' **PAGE 3**

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES WEEK

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, joined yesterday by Rota Mayor Efraim Atalig and the Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services, proclaimed the week of May 15-21, 2022 as Emergency Medical Services Week, and May 18, 2022 as Emergency Medical Services for Children Day during a proclamation signing at the DFEMS Commissioner's Office on Capital Hill. OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

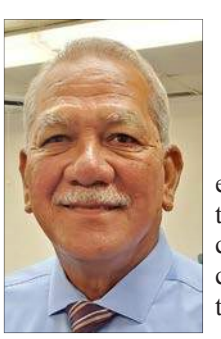
'AG also flew premium class'

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
Kimberly_esmores@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, through his lawyers, claims that Attorney General Edward Manibusan helped pave the way for government officials to fly first class in their official capacities by flying premium class himself.

According to the motion to disqualify the Office of the Attorney General from the criminal suit filed against Torres, Viola Alepuyo and Matthew Holley claim that the OAG did not only provide legal advice in the drafting of the CNMI's travel regulations, but he himself flew first class on official business, paving the way for others, like Torres, to do the same.

"Based on the legal advice provided by the OAG on the travel regulations, and on AG Manibusan leading by example and flying premium class, the way was paved for numerous government officials and across several government agencies, to obtain premium class in their official capacities," the motion stated.


Manibusan

» **Manibusan allegedly paved the way for premium class travel for government officials**

Public Law 15-86 was enacted on Sept. 26, 2007, codifying airfare restriction, and imposing a civil penalty on a government employee who "caused the issuance" of a premium air class ticket. However, when P.L.

See AG on Page 4

Report: Supreme Court draft suggests Roe could be overturned

By MARK SHERMAN and ZEKE MILLER
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON (AP)—A draft opinion suggests the U.S. Supreme Court could be poised to overturn the landmark 1973 *Roe v. Wade* case that legalized abortion nationwide, according to a *Politico* report.

A decision to overrule *Roe* would lead to abortion bans in roughly half the states and could have huge ramifications for this year's elections. But it's unclear if the draft represents the court's final word on the matter—opinions often change in ways big and small in the drafting process.

President Joe Biden said Tuesday that the "basic fairness and the stability of our

See REPORT on Page 4

COMMUNITY VULNERABILITY

LEGEND:
Red: Least safe
Orange
Yellow
Blue
Green: Safest

Source: Office of the Governor

Torres not keen on issuing gas vouchers

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
kimberly_esmores@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Despite the recent passage of Senate Joint Resolution 22-08 that supports a $500 gas voucher program, it now appears that the request will perish once it reaches the desk of Gov. Ralph DLG Torres after he openly stated that he would rather issue relief in the form of stimulus cards instead of gas vouchers because more people would benefit that way.

During a press briefing last week, Torres said he still leaning toward issuing stimulus cards instead of gas vouchers because there are a lot of people who don't own cars and wouldn't benefit from such a program.

"The gas voucher is not something I am looking into only because I believe

See TORRES on Page 4

7 from the CNMI to graduate from Boise State U

In 2018, a total of 14 students from Saipan—the largest of the Northern Mariana Islands, and a United States commonwealth some 6,000 miles across the Pacific—began their freshman year at Boise State University through the Million Dollar Scholars program. The program offers the camaraderie and financial help students need to leave home to study at universities, and supports many first-generation college students from lower-income homes and lower socioeconomic backgrounds.

This spring, seven of the Million Dollar Scholars students will graduate from Boise State with degrees; they are:

■ Christian Arceo, Bachelor of Science, Kinesiology, Human Performance and Exercise

■ Alyssa Rae Cepeda, Bachelor of Arts, Environmental Studies

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Roberta Maratita is graduating from the Boise State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Sociology.

■ Chelsea Isip, Bachelor of Science, Public Health, General Emphasis

■ Angel Legaspi, Bachelor of Science, Computer Science, Cybersecurity

■ Roberta Maratita, Bachelor of Science, Sociology

■ Edson Lui Valdisimo, Bachelor of Arts, Communication

■ Daniel Villarmero, Bachelor of Science, Computer Science

Manny Sablan graduated with the winter 2021 class and is currently working on a graduate degree at Boise State.

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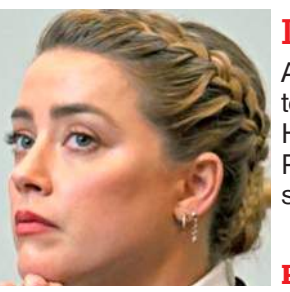
INSIDE

LOCAL
Gov. Ralph DLG Torres gamely joins the Saipan Fitbeat Lions Club's Fitbeat Challenge.
Page 13

ENVIRONMENT
The CNMI and U.S. Divisions of Fish and Wildlife team up with Pacific Bird Conservation to save birds.
Page 14



LIFE & STYLE
A psychologist testifies that Amber Heard suffered PTSD from violence she suffered.
Page 15

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Local

House honors Tudela's dedication to beautifying CNMI

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
kimberly_esmores@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The 22nd House of Representatives has recognized Pedro Joaquin Tudela through House Resolution 22-16 for the work he has done to beautify the CNMI.

KIMBERLY ESMORES
Members of the 22nd House of Representatives present Pedro Joaquin Tudela with House Resolution 22-16.

Members of the House of Representatives took a moment during a House session last week to recognize Tudela by presenting him and his family House Resolution 22-16.

Part of the resolution states that Tudela is being recognized "for his tremendous contribution in protecting, promoting, propagating, and preserving our native plant species and our natural environment in the Commonwealth and for his passion and commitment to his workplace."

Rep. Joel Camacho (R-Saipan), who read the resolution before its presentation to Tudela, said that, speaking for the Legislature, he is grateful for the work that Tudela has done.

"We are so forever grateful. We see you out there and your hard work is a testament to a lot of our government employees that you exemplify the work of our government here in the Commonwealth. We are

See HOUSE on Next Page

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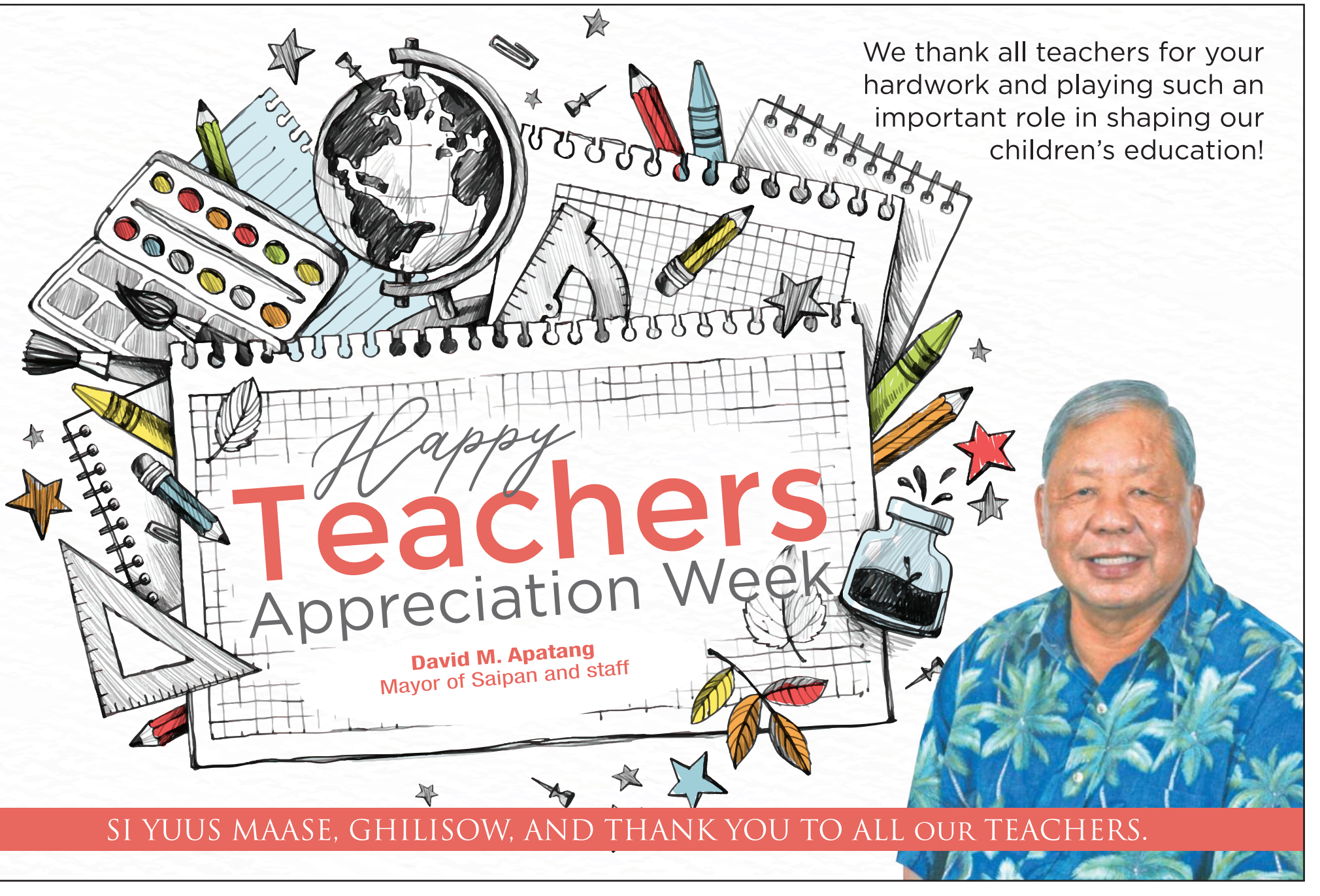
We thank all teachers for your hardwork and playing such an important role in shaping our children's education!
Happy
Teachers
Appreciation Week
David M. Apatang
Mayor of Saipan and staff
SI YUUS MAASE, GHILISOW, AND THANK YOU TO ALL OUR TEACHERS.

Three arrested for alleged illegal possession of 'ice'

Inspectors of the CNMI Division of Customs intercepted last May 2, 2022, a large amount of crystalline substance concealed inside a package. Inspectors tested the crystalline substance and it yielded a presumptive positive result for methamphetamine and weighed approximately 997.4 gross grams. The CNMI Drug Enforcement Task Force was immediately notified.

The package was claimed by an unknown female who was later apprehended. This investigation led to an additional two arrests, where a search warrant was also executed that same afternoon. A large undetermined amount of drugs (methamphetamine) and money were discovered and seized by authorities.

This case has been forwarded to the court.

In all, the CNMI Drug Enforcement Task Force arrested three individuals and executed one search warrant.

Through the course of this operation, authorities arrested 40-year-old Huaishu Wang, 55-year-old Yongbing Ni, and 48-year-old Hong Jie Li.

The CNMI Department of Public Safety highly encourages the public to call 911 anytime to report a crime or an emergency. Our officers are here to help you. If you wish to remain anonymous call the CNMI Crime Stoppers hotline at 234-7272. Crime Stoppers pays up to $1,000 for any information leading to an arrest. It pays to call. ***(DPS)***

Jury selection cancelled

This is to inform all prospective jurors on panel "21JS" that the jury selection scheduled for Monday, May 9, 2022, at 8:30am is hereby cancelled. For further information contact Clerk of Court Patrick Diaz at Superior Court at (670) 236-9783 or (670) 783-8522. ***(PR)***

HOUSE

From Page 2

proud and honored to present this resolution on your behalf and your family. We hope you continue in preserving our natural environment," he said.

Tudela said he was overwhelmed and grateful at the same time to receive such an honor.

"I am overwhelmed with gratitude to have been selected to receive the House resolution today. …I would like to thank the 22nd Legislature and…the hardworking people in this House for the recognition of my hard work and dedication to the beautiful island of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. I would also like to thank my supervisor, Frank Ada, for always motivating me and pushing me to my best in my work and to my family and friends as well," he said.

Tudela, who strongly be-

See HOUSE on Next Page

ESGR INITIATIVES LEIGH GASES

Representatives of the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserves pay a courtesy call on Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP), third from right, yesterday at his office, during which they briefed Sablan on ESGR and the event and activities that are being worked on in the CNMI. Others in the photo, from left, are Angel Vibar, volunteer support technician; Joann Aquino, ombudsman representative for the CNMI; Benny Paulino, ESGR vice chairman and chair emeritus; Rey Llaneta, ESGR chairman; Rita A. Sablan, CNMI Committee area chair; and Rose Igitol, employer outreach representative for the CNMI.

LEIGH GASES

Employer Support of the Guard and Reserves chair Rey Llaneta, left, presents an ESGR coin to Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) for his staunch support of CNMI and Guam troops.

TORRES

From Page 1

the stimulus card is good for everybody. If you have a car, I understand that you need gas. But if given stimulus cards, these cards can also be used for gas and others can use it for other necessities like food and other means," Torres explained.

Currently, Torres said the administration is working in conjunction with the Department of Finance on issuing another round of stimulus cards.

"We are looking at the numbers again. We are looking into [another round of stimulus cards] with the secretary of Finance. We are working on trying to close gaps and improve on the challenges we had during the first round of stimulus card distributions. But there will be a stimulus similar to what we had the first time where everyone benefits from it and it can be utilized at any vendor in the CNMI," Torres said.

One of the main problems the administration aims to fix in the event that stimulus cards are disbursed once more was the lack of information.

"A lot of folks did not understand that even if you're not working, as long as you file your taxes, you're able to receive the stimulus. Those are the gaps we are trying to fill, educating the community. And, of course, technical challenges that we had, like mailing," he said.

During a House session last week, 16 members of the House of Representatives voted "yes" to Senate Joint Resolution 22-08 in support of a $500 gas voucher program, with one abstention.

Joint Resolution 22-08 asks Torres and Finance Secretary David Atalig to provide financial assistance to meet the increased fuel costs in the CNMI by implementing a $500 fuel voucher program.

The resolution states that the CNMI needs this assistance because of the many hardships the community has faced in the last few years.

"This legislative body recognizes that there are many hardships in which the people of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands are faced with, and additionally, the citizens have endured an abundance of physical, emotional, and financial constraints as a result of the evolving global pandemic that is associated with the COVID-19 virus; and in addition to the various hardships imposed by economic turmoil caused by the global pandemic, the NMI residents face substantial increases in fuel prices," the resolution states.

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From Page 1

"As a first-generation college student from a 10-mile-long island, the first Million Dollar Scholar of Rota, and the first person in my high school graduating class to seek higher education in the mainland, higher education almost seemed impossible," said Roberta Maratita. "May I always remember how long I've dreamed of being exactly where I am now. And once more, as I had said four years ago, education is the way to see beyond the coconut trees and ocean of my island."

"We can think of no better way to kick-off Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month than by offering our congratulations to these students," said the university in a Facebook post. ***(Boise State University)***

HOUSE

From Page 3

lieves in the importance of planting endemic plants for future generations, said he hopes that others will carry on his work.

"I hope that, while so many people are out there are smelling the flowers, someone is taking the time to plant some," he said.

He left everyone with a quote that has encouraged him to keep up his work: "This life is yours, take the power to choose what you want to do and do it well. Take the power to love what you want in life and love it honestly. Take the power to walk in the forest and be part of nature. Take the power to control your own life because no one else can do it for you. Take the power to make your life happy," he said.

AG

From Page 1

15-86 was enacted, the Department of Finance did not have a uniform travel regulation in place, Alepuyo and Holley said.

The two noted in their motion that on or about Feb. 16, 2016, Manibusan travelled on premium class authorized by the Office of the Governor.

"Manibusan, the Commonwealth's chief legal officer, demonstrated that he too must follow Department of Finance's travel regulations by obtaining approval for his government-sponsored travel. Naturally, anyone authorized to sign off on Manibusan's Travel Authorization would not question the legality of his premium class travel, given his position as the chief legal officer," the lawyers stated.

Then, in 2017, the Executive Branch created the Travel Regulations Steering Committee to address travel regulations, they said.

"The committee was organized to allow premium class for the effectiveness of agency goals and strategic objectives, including a policy allowing premium travel for the governor and lieutenant governor, and to allow all others the option to upgrade at the government employee's own expense," they said.

On June 6, 2017, Epiphanio Cabrera Jr., the Office of Grants Management administrator, issued a memorandum to all government agencies on behalf of the Travel Committee seeking input, suggestions, recommendations, or improvement metrics from all agencies to better improve and update the CNMI's travel regulations.

During this time, the OAG provided legal advice and approved the policy and regulations drafted by the Travel Committee. That same draft included specific language that the governor and lieutenant governor were allowed to travel first class.

"The allowance for persons traveling for the government, including the governor's spouse, shall equal to the number of days of authorized office travel multiplied by the current per diem allowance rate, contained in the Joint Travel Regulations, to its employees for the respective travel destinations when engaged in official business, except for the governor and lieutenant governor, who are allowed first class travel; all others are economy. Upgrades shall be borne at the traveler's personal expense," the draft Travel Regulations state.

The lawyers added that at no point during the OAG's legal advice and consultation with the Travel Committee did it ever recommend the removal of the provision allowing the governor and lieutenant governor from traveling first class.

The Travel Committee's Travel Regulations, with the OAG's approval, was implemented by the Department of Finance soon after.

The Office of the Public Auditor eventually became aware of the government's non-uniform travel policy and the widespread use of premium class travel among government officials. OPA investigated the Commonwealth's travel policy and found numerous violations and, by auditing several Commonwealth agencies, OPA found that not only was there no uniform policy regarding premium class travel, but several government officials were also using premium class travel in their official capacities.

"The lack of a uniform premium class air travel policy rests with the OAG. The OAG provided legal advice and supervision on the development of premium class air travel. The OAG's prosecution of Gov. Torres based on alleged violations of §7407(f) is directly contrary to the advice and guidance it gave in assisting the Executive Branch in developing regulations for §7407(f). This circumstance presents a situation which requires automatic withdrawal or disqualification," the motion stated.

REPORT

From Page 1

law demand" that the court not overturn *Roe*. While emphasizing that he couldn't speak to the authenticity of the draft, Biden said his administration is preparing for all eventualities for when the court ultimate rules and that a decision overturning *Roe* would raise the stakes for voters in November's heated midterm elections.

"If the court does overturn *Roe*, it will fall on our nation's elected officials at all levels of government to protect a woman's right to choose," Biden said. "And it will fall on voters to elect pro-choice officials this November. At the federal level, we will need more pro-choice senators and a pro-choice majority in the House to adopt legislation that codifies *Roe*, which I will work to pass and sign into law."

Whatever the outcome, the *Politico* report late Monday represented an extremely rare breach of the court's secretive deliberation process, and on a case of surpassing importance.

"*Roe* was egregiously wrong from the start," the draft opinion states. It was signed by Justice Samuel Alito, a member of the court's 6-3 conservative majority who was appointed by former President George W. Bush.

The document was labeled a "1st Draft" of the "Opinion of the Court" in a case challenging Mississippi's ban on abortion after 15 weeks, a case known as *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*.

The court is expected to rule on the case before its term ends in late June or early July.

The draft opinion in effect states there is no constitutional right to abortion services and would allow individual states to more heavily regulate or outright ban the procedure.

"We hold that *Roe* and *Casey* must be overruled," it states, referencing the 1992 case *Planned Parenthood v. Casey* that affirmed *Roe*'s finding of a constitutional right to abortion services but allowed states to place some constraints on the practice. "It is time to heed the Constitution and return the issue of abortion to the people's elected representatives."

A Supreme Court spokeswoman said the court had no comment, and the Associated Press could not immediately confirm the authenticity of the draft *Politico* posted, which dates from February.

Politico said only that it received "a copy of the draft opinion from a person familiar with the court's proceedings in the Mississippi case along with other details supporting the authenticity of the document."

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PUBLIC NOTICE

The Honorable Ralph DLG. Torres and the Honorable Lt. Governor Arnold I. Palacios through the Department of Public Works (DPW) would like to notify the general public of the 4-year Federal Aid Highway Program's Territorial Transportation Improvement Plan (TTIP) Amendment 4.

A copy of the plan can be obtained at the DPW Technical Services Highway Section for review and comments. Written comments must be submitted directly to DPW TSD Highway Branch, 2nd Flr. Suite 211 at the Oleai Joeten Commercial Center on Beach Road or via email to: lms.dpwtsd@gmail.com or ldlcs.dpw@gmail.com no later than
May 19, 2022 at 2:00 pm.

Should you have any questions regarding the TTIP, you may contact Ms. Lorraine Villagomez, Highway Administrator or Ms. Lauren Sanchez, Federal Program Coordinator of the
Department of Public Works Technical Services Division-Highway Section at (670) 234-9828.

The following are listed in the TTIP FY20-23 Amendment 4:

I. CNMI DEPARTMENT OF Public Works Technical Services Division HIGHWAY BRANCH 4-YEAR Territorial Transportation Improvement Plan: PROJECTS FUNDED BY: U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)

AMENDMENT 4

DISTRICT	VILLAGE	ROUTE NO.	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	TYPE OF WORK	FY2020 FEDERAL	FY2021 FEDERAL	FY2022 FEDERAL	FY2023 FEDERAL
ALL	ALL	FY	Highway Planning, Technology Transfer & Training Activities Program-	Admin	$975,986.00	$1,417,604.20	$1,928,356.62	$1,644,486.00
ALL	ALL	OJTSS	On The Job Training Support Service	Admin	$37,500.00	$37,500.00	$37,500.00	$37,500.00
ALL	ALL	NSTI	National Summer Transportation Institute	Admin	$20,000.00	$20,000.00	$20,000.00	$20,000.00
I	Songsong	10	Route 10 Drainage upgrade from Pinatang Park to CUC Power Plant - Phase II	PE - Design				
				Construction				$1,000,000.00
I	Dugi	103	Route 103 - Roadway Improvements	PE - Design			$850,000.00	
				Construction				$932,630.00
				CM				
II	San Jose	202	Route 202 - Hazard Elimination	PE - Design				
				Construction		$500,000.00		
II	San Jose	205	Route 205	PE - Design		$350,000.00		
				Construction				$180,000.00
III	Chalan Laulau - Garapan	30	Route 30 - Chalan Pale Arnold Hazard Elimination	PE				
				ROW				
				Construction				$880,000.00
				CM				
	Chalan Laulau - Garapan	30	Route 30 - Installation of Traffic Light System	PE - Design				
				Construction		$2,500,000.00		
				CM				
III	As Perdido	32	As Perdido Road Safety Improvements	PE - Design				$200,000.00
				Construction				
				CM				
III	Chalan Piao-Sa Jose	33	Beach Road Hazard Elimination Project, Phase 2	PE - Design				
				Construction		$6,920,000.00	$1,090,000.00	
				CM		$1,000,000.00		
III	Christo Rai - Micro Beach	33	Beach Road Hazard Elimination Project, Phase 4 - Roundabout	PE - Design				
				Construction				$1,000,000.00
				CM				$200,000.00
III	Dandan	35	Route 35 - Airport Road Improvement	PE - Design				
				Construction	$2,500,000.00			
				CM - DPW				
III	Obyan	302/304	Naftan Road and Flametree Road Improvements	Env. Update	$20,000.00			
				Construction		$5,500,000.00		
				CM		$300,000.00		
III	Capitol Hill	310	Route 310 Tapochao Road and drainage Improvements	PE Design	$500,000.00		$124,000.00	
				Construction				$500,000.00
				CM				$300,000.00
III	Gualo Rai	317	Route 317 - Gualo Rai Road and Drainage Improvements	PE Design				
				Construction				$1,500,000.00
				CM				
	Island-Wide		Island-Wide Hazard Elimination, Saipan	Construction			$681,907.77	
		31/307	Hazard Elimination-Intersection of Chalan Msgr. Guerrero and Chalan Tun Antonio Apa	Construction		$200,000.00	$368,092.30	
		34	Kagman Traffic Road Repair	Construction			$250,000.00	
TOTAL OBLIGATION					$4,053,486.00	$18,745,104.20	$5,349,856.69	$8,394,616.00

Estimated Carry Over Prior Fiscal Year TOTAL:	$603,225.00	$20,813,805.99	$6,112,001.79	$5,275,445.10
FMIS Unobligated Funds (Closed-Out Projects/De-obligated Funds)	$20,220,766.99	$ -	$470,000.00	$ -
OJTSS/NSTI	$57,500.00	$57,500.00	$57,500.00	$57,500.00
Annual Allocation:				
TOTAL ALLOCATION (not including Other Funds)	$3,985,800.00	$3,985,800.00	$3,985,800.00	$3,985,800.00
TOTAL OBLIGATION (not including other funds)	$24,867,291.99	$24,857,105.99	$10,625,301.79	$9,318,745.10
FISCAL ALLOCATION TO HQ (Not including Other Funds)	$4,053,486.00	$18,745,104.20	$5,349,856.69	$8,394,616.00
TOTAL ALLOCATION - other (ER, Special Funds, etc.)	$20,813,805.99	$6,112,001.79	$5,275,445.10	$924,129.10

Latest WDOT films are accepted to two more film festivals

Mount Carmel School learned that its latest entries in the We Drank Our Tears series—the stories of *Visitacion* Camacho, Henry *Indalecio*, and David "Uncle Dave" *Sablan*—were accepted into two more film festivals. The films will be screened at the 2022 Tokyo Lift-Off Film Festival and as part of the 2nd *Māsima* Pacific Islands Film Tour.

The Lift-Off Global Network is an organization encompassing worldwide live screening events, distribution initiatives, a seasonal awards ceremony, and an ever growing and active network of indie film creators. It is one of the most successful in the season, with back-to-back sell-outs and huge interest from the public and Japan press. The Annual Māsima Film Tour is the first film festival created by Pacific Islanders for Pacific Islanders within the U.S. The tour is a collaboration between the Utah Pacific Island Film Series and the Salt Lake Film Society to bring Pacific stories to a broader audience.

The writer and producer of the film series and Northern Marianas College president Galvin Deleon Guerrero, EdD, was happy to hear of the screenings. "These films have empowered a whole new generation of storytellers to learn more about their history and tell these important stories of resiliency and hope," he said.

All films in the series were made primarily with students from the school serving as cast and crew members. "Just as the original book was the work of young students chronicling the stories of their elders in print, these films are the work of young students chronicling the stories of our islands in film," Deleon Guerrero noted.

All films in the series are adapted from We Drank Our *Tears*, a 2004 oral history of the civilian experience of World War II battles on Saipan and *Tinian*, published by Pacific STAR Young Writers Foundation. In 1944, some of the final battles of World War II were waged on the Pacific islands of Saipan and Tinian. About 933 indigenous Chamorro and *Refaluwasch* civilians did not survive the battles. The book and the film series tell some of those stories.

The film stars *Jessiana Tenorio* as *Visitacion* Camacho, Jayson *Tagaubel* as Henry *Indalecio*, and *Kainoa Tenorio* as Dave *Sablan.* Their stories were directed by *Mikee* Mendoza, Larry Cruz, and the school's director of institutional development and AlumKnight, Victoria Deleon Guerrero.

The production was made possible by the CNMI CARES Relief Fund for Organizations and supported by the National Endowment for the Arts through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act of 2020. For more information about the films or Mount Carmel School, visit *www.mountcarmelsaipan.com*. ***(PR)***

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION
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CHC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

/S/ CORA P. ADA
DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION
INVITATION TO BID
ITB22-CHCC-015
SUBMISSION DEADLINE: MAY 30TH, 2022 TIME: 10:00AM (CHST)

"PROCUREMENT OF VEHICLES FOR TINIAN HEALTH CENTER-THC, ROTA HEALTH CENTER-RHC, ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DISEASE PROGRAM-EHDP AND MATERNAL & SUPPLY OFFICE-MSO"

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/S/ ESTHER L. MUNA
CHC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

/S/ CORA P. ADA
DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY

MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY

FIT TO LEAD

HAFA ADAI TINIAN

CNMI TOURISM MONTH

5K FUN RUN

MAY 14, 2022 | 6:30 AM | BEACH ROAD

TIME TO PUT DOWN THE SWEETS, LACE UP YOUR SNEAKERS AND HIT THE PAVEMENT!

Join MVA and Governor Torres for the Fit To Lead 5k Fun Run on Beach Road.

REGISTER TODAY AT:

- Marianas Visitors Authority Office
- CNMI Office of the Governor
- or online via MVA site

$10 / person

MARIANAS, IT'S TIME WE COME TOGETHER TO GET FIT TO LEAD.

PROCEEDS WILL BENEFIT: Diabetes Coalition & Run Saipan

SPONSORED BY: MVA, CNMI Office of the Governor, & Tan Siu Lin Foundation

CNMI TOURISM MONTH

RUN SAIPAN

Tan Holdings

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Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
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EDITORIAL

Wimbledon's ban on Russian players puts punishment where it isn't warranted

The decision by Wimbledon officials to ban top stars from Russia and Belarus from this summer's premier grass tennis tournament is short-sighted and unfair, even if it might satisfy those who want to bring maximum pressure to bear on Russian leader Vladimir Putin for the atrocities his forces are committing in Ukraine.

A boycott of Russian exports and a massive freeze on Russia's ability to engage in international banking are necessary to deny Putin the funds he needs to continue prosecuting his unprovoked war. But banning top-ranked tennis stars like men's world No. 2 Daniil Medvedev of Russia and Aryna Sabalenka and Victoria Azarenka of Belarus, among others, does nothing to help Ukraine and inflicts harm against athletes who appear to bear no responsibility for the war.

The only useful purpose the ban might present would be to help awaken Russians to the reality of their nation's crimes in Ukraine. When they see their favorite tennis players are banned, while they increasingly feel the pain of international economic sanctions, the potential rises for them to start challenging Putin's propaganda and identify him, not the West, as the problem.

Few Russians so far have dared to speak out against Putin, though, perhaps because they know that doing so can lead to arrest. Some of his loudest critics have been imprisoned, poisoned, tortured or assassinated.

Wimbledon officials are expecting way too much if they were hoping that such a ban would bring Putin to his senses. Those players have families at home who could suffer if they were to speak out. Their assets could be seized. They themselves could face an arrest order should they go back home.

Wimbledon officials reportedly feared that a victory by Medvedev could be used by Putin to burnish his domestic image and tout Russian sports superiority at a time when its military has faced one humiliating defeat after another in Ukraine. The presentation of the trophy by the duchess of Cambridge, Kate Middleton, would confer an inadvertent form of royal recognition for Putin and Russia.

But the net effect is to impose a form of collective punishment on all Russians in a way that resembles the distorted way the boycott, divestment and sanctions movement against Israel has led to Israeli professors being banned from U.S. academic appearances merely because they're Israeli—regardless of where they stand on Israeli settlements or the military occupation of the West Bank.

China has, for years, been engaged in mass arrests and re-education of its Uyghur population. The program is condemned worldwide, but if collective punishment is appropriate for Russians, could 1.4 billion Chinese be next?

The potential is limitless for inflicting punishment on people in autocratic countries who have no truly democratic way to choose their leaders. They don't deserve to be banned abroad for the egregious actions their leaders take.

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Silent majority of Americans who support abortion rights just learned the danger of silence

By MARY MCNAMARA
Los Angeles Times

Here we go again.

While the planet sizzles and Russia invades Eastern Europe, as the COVID-19 pandemic continues to claim hundreds of lives every day and millions of Americans search in vain for a living wage and affordable housing, the cynical machinations of conservative politicians who've turned reproductive rights into a single-issue campaign tactic have in all likelihood forced this country to fight once more for women's most inalienable right: the ability to control what happens to their bodies.

A leaked Supreme Court document, obtained by Politico, appears to indicate a conservative court about to overturn Roe v. Wade—the case that for a half a century has protected a woman's right to choose a legal and safe abortion in every state.

Every poll conducted on the topic has found that a majority of Americans support a woman's right to this choice, which means two things: Conservatives have surrendered all rights to their mendacious use of the term "silent majority"; and in this case, the actual majority has long remained silent. Americans are, in all likelihood, now going to have to fight in the street and at the ballot box to restore the rights that a repressive, control-hungry minority has tried so obsessively to curtail.

We should also take a good, hard look at a popular culture in which the reality and importance of reproductive rights have been rigorously ignored.

As many as 1 in 4 American women will have an abortion in their lifetimes, as estimated by the Guttenmacher Institute—nearly all during the first trimester and most after having had at least one child. A majority are in their 20s and living at or below the poverty line, but many are college-educated professionals who look a lot like female characters from film and television.

So where are their stories? With the exception of series and films that revolve around an unexpected and/or unwanted pregnancy, I can count on one hand the number of storylines involving abortion as it most often occurs.

When, in 2011, "Grey's Anatomy's" Cristina (Sandra Oh) terminated a pregnancy for the simple reason that she had not planned to become—and did not want to be—a mother, it was the first time I had ever seen a female character do such a thing.

A few other series subsequently included similar storylines—"Jane the Virgin" gave birth to her absolutely unplanned child, but in Season 3, her mother chose not to do the same, right around the time that "Crazy Ex-Girlfriend's" Paula, also already a mother, terminated a pregnancy. A few years later, "Shrill's" Annie had a surgical abortion when the morning-after-pill failed. The morning-after-pill has had an increasing on-screen presence, most recently in "Expecting Amy," but the examples of women choosing to terminate a pregnancy remain few and far between.

More often, abortion is depicted with all manner of Sturm und Drang (and, most usually, a "fortuitous" miscarriage). It's either historical and dangerous, as in the first season of "Bridgerton" or the upcoming French film "Happening," or it's something a man is trying to force upon a woman, as in the recent series "Maid."

Both situations also reflect reality, and no woman should ever be coerced into an abortion, but the fact remains that a woman making a choice that results in a baby fuels all manner of cinematic narrative; a woman making a similar choice that involves an abortion is exceedingly rare.

Apparently, we'd rather continue to humanize mobsters and serial killers or examine the horror of a potential dystopia than occasionally reflect the reality of so many women's lives.

As we know from all types of stories too long ignored, that kind of erasure only re-enforces ignorance and, too often, shame. The decision to have an abortion is private but so is masturbation, and lord knows we see plenty of that on the screen these days.

I understand that some people believe abortion is murder, just as some believe that weed is a gateway drug leading inevitably to a heroin overdose. I would recommend that none of those people ever have an abortion or visit a dispensary.

But personal beliefs are not, should never be, the basis of law. The moment a group of potentially developing cells becomes a fetus and then a potentially viable baby is at present unknowable—something scientists have debated for centuries.

Roe uses the medically accepted three trimesters of pregnan-

See AMERICANS on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Statements on the passing of former Guam speaker Joaquin C. Arriola

CNMI Gov. Ralph DLG. Torres issued the following statement yesterday on the passing of former attorney and Guam Legislature speaker Joaquin C. Arriola:

Torres

I am saddened to hear of the passing of former attorney and speaker for the Guam Legislature Joaquin C. Arriola.

Speaker Arriola was a respected and iconic leader whose integrity, vision, and character shall be remembered for generations. Attorney Arriola left an indelible mark upon the legal profession as a remarkable attorney of over 67 years, whose work greatly impacted the practice of law within the region. His longstanding service will be recorded in the annals of history for having helped shape the face of public policy, law, and politics on Guam and throughout the Marianas in our common era.

On behalf of my family and the people of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, we express our heartfelt condolences to his children, family, and friends. We thank him for his valuable contributions to the practice of law in the Pacific, and he will truly be missed.

Guam Gov. Lou Leon Guerrero and Lt. Gov. Josh Tenorio issued the following statements on the passing of former speaker Joaquin C. Arriola:

Gov. Lou Leon Guerrero: We join the island of Guam in mourning the passing of Honorable Speaker Joaquin C. Arriola, a trailblazer for our local law community at the forefront of Guam's judicial history, who was one of the first CHamoru lawyers. With his respected integrity in law, in addition to his public service as a lawyer, judge, senator, and island leader, Speaker Arriola devoted 67 years of his life to ensuring the people of Guam had a voice of moral fortitude representing them not only in important legal matters but also as a notable war hero who helped rebuild Guam from the ashes of World War II. We extend our sincerest condolences to his children Jacqueline, Anita, Lisa, Vincent, Franklin, Michael, Joaquin Jr., and Anthony.

Lt. Gov. Josh Tenorio: The passing of Speaker Arriola is especially felt as our island works toward recovery and the commemoration of our 78th Liberation Day. As a war survivor who endured Guam's occupation and helped American forces free our people, we are deeply saddened by this giant loss in our Greatest Generation. Speaker Arriola carved out a legal career that would eventually lead to generations of civic leadership including as president of the Guam Bar Association, associate justice of the Supreme Court of Guam, and senator for six terms in the Guam Legislature. He was a postwar role model for resolute civic engagement whose legal contributions significantly advanced and protected justice and the rule of law. Our island continues to benefit from the fruits of his public service, including through laws he passed to strengthen Guam's judiciary, legal structures, hospital, health care, and public lands.

Below is a statement from Speaker Therese Terlaje on behalf of the 36th Guam Legislature:

Today, our island mourns the loss of Joaquin C. Arriola, a war survivor, former Justice pro tempore, senator, and speaker of the Guam Legislature.

The Honorable Joaquin C. Arriola was one of Guam's first Chamorro lawyers who was at the forefront of Guam's legal history. He served as a senator in the 3rd and 4th Guam Legislatures as well as speaker of the 9th and 10th Guam Legislatures in addition to his extensive years of legal practice. Speaker Arriola advocated greater self-government for the people of Guam, and was recognized for his exemplary legal work and civic service as a recipient of the Hustisia Award in 2014 and the Judge Cristobal Duenas Excellence Award in 2017.

Speaker Arriola's commitment, dedication, and outstanding public service have greatly influenced the practice of law, having dedicated 67 years of his life in service to the people of Guam.

We join the family of the late Speaker Arriola in mourning their loss and offer our deepest condolences and prayers during their time of sorrow.

Guam vice speaker Tina Rose Muña Barnes issued the following statement on the passing of speaker Joaquin "Kin" C. Arriola:

Today, our island mourns the passing of one of Guam's esteemed statesmen.

Speaker Joaquin "Kin" C. Arriola was a tireless champion for justice, civil rights, and self-governance. Speaker Arriola played a critical role in the establishment of local gubernatorial elections, ending a 20-year period of presidential appointments of our island's executive leadership, and for pushing the creation of a Guam delegate in Congress.

As one of Guam's first CHamoru lawyers, Speaker Arriola founded Guam's oldest law firm and began his service to the island. Soon, he ran for the Guam Legislature and served in 3rd and 4th Guam Legislatures and in the 9th and 10th Guam Legislature as speaker.

After running for governor in 1970, Speaker Arriola returned to his roots and began a legal career filled with civic leadership including presidency of the Guam Bar Association, membership in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Bar Association, a part-time associate justiceship at the Supreme Court of Guam, as well as service on boards and commissions in Guam.

Speaker Arriola helped shape our island into what it is today, and his legacy will live on through the impact he has made during his decades of service to the people of Guam. I express my deepest condolences to his family and those who loved him.

'Your service keeps our Commonwealth alive'

The following is a message from Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios to the CNMI's government employees in commemoration of Public Service Recognition Week:

As we celebrate Public Service Recognition Week, I would like to express my wholehearted appreciation to the men and women across our great Commonwealth who continue to make our community a better place through their public service as government employees.

When you leave home and head to work, you're not just going to do a job, you're continuing your service to our community. Without you, the vision of our Covenant creators would never be realized.

Whether in the office or in the field, our government employees keep our Commonwealth going. From our utility workers who keep the lights on and water flowing, to our healthcare workers and first responders who answer the calls when emergencies strike, to our educators and support staff who mold the next generation of citizens, your service keeps our Commonwealth alive.

When President Ronald Reagan introduced Public Service Recognition Week back in 1985, he knew full well the importance of our government employees. With tremendous contributions from every department every day, our public service employees from all departments and agencies make the CNMI a better place.

Quite simply, our Commonwealth would be nothing without you. Thank you for your service to our community.

May God bless our public servants, and may God bless our Commonwealth.

By ARNOLD I. PALACIOS
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Arnold I. Palacios is the lieutenant governor of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

AMERICANS

From Page 8

cy, with their increasing chance of viability outside the womb, to guide the level of government restriction allowed to protect the potential baby. Written and supported by justices appointed by Republicans as well as Democrats, it has been accepted law for five decades, during which time the abortion rate has declined, and remains supported by most Americans.

But not all, obviously. Those who oppose a woman's right to choose fall into certain demographics, which make them easy targets for politicians attempting to court support where, absent the issue of abortion, support might not be found. Richard Nixon successfully used anti-abortion positions to appeal to Catholic voters; Republicans have been using the prospect of overturning Roe v. Wade to cobble together an improbable coalition of Catholics, evangelicals and far right groups.

Aided by decades of theatrical and increasingly deadly attacks on women attempting to visit Planned Parenthood and other clinics, abortion became not a health or social issue but a singularly political hot button, used to turn American politics into a falsely framed, single-issue debate: You either supported killing babies or you didn't.

This is where popular culture should have come in—and didn't. In the absence of stories depicting the reality of abortion for most women, that intentionally malicious misinterpretation of a woman's right to control what happens to her own body became far too easy to sell.

Even in a time when intensified conversations about rape and sexual harassment have increased public awareness of the dangers women face. The Supreme Court document was leaked just as many news outlets were reporting on the countless Ukrainian women raped as an act of war, creating a moment of hideous synchronicity. For centuries, the abuse of women's bodies has been used to break entire populations—in part by impregnation through rape. Under many state laws that would be upheld or go into effect should Roe v. Wade be overturned, even victims of rape and incest would be denied access to safe and legal abortion.

And even without the specter of rape, legally enforced pregnancy is a war crime against women. No woman should be forced to become a mother or to serve as an unwilling incubator for the adoption industry. No one should be punished for having consensual sex, particularly when that punishment is visited on only one of the partners.

Time and again, the anti-abortion forces have proved through policy and rhetoric that their concern is not for the actual babies, who require food, shelter and all manner of resources that this country is loath to provide to those who cannot afford them. Nor is it about decreasing the number of abortions—women will continue to terminate unwanted pregnancies, either in states where it is still legal or by means illegal and often fatal.

Those opposed to abortion are evidently uninterested in decreasing the number of unwanted pregnancies; their politics go hand-in-hand with calls to end or curtail sex education, to close clinics like Planned Parenthood that offer free or affordable birth control.

No, this is all about control, about reminding women that their bodies do not belong to them—that their reproductive capacity, unlike men's, is the property of the state, that their ability to make decisions about their future ends the moment some man's sperm collides with one of their eggs.

We can blame conservative politicians and their cynical leveraging of this issue for career gain; we can blame the religious organizations that continue to equate women's bodies with sex and sex with sin; we can blame the voters who, sincerely or not, insist on seeing an end to legal abortion as the most important issue of our time.

But at a certain level, we're all to blame. Too many of the vast majority of Americans who support Roe v. Wade have been content to do just that: support reproductive rights without talking or writing or singing or filming enough about why they are so essential, why they were worth fighting for.

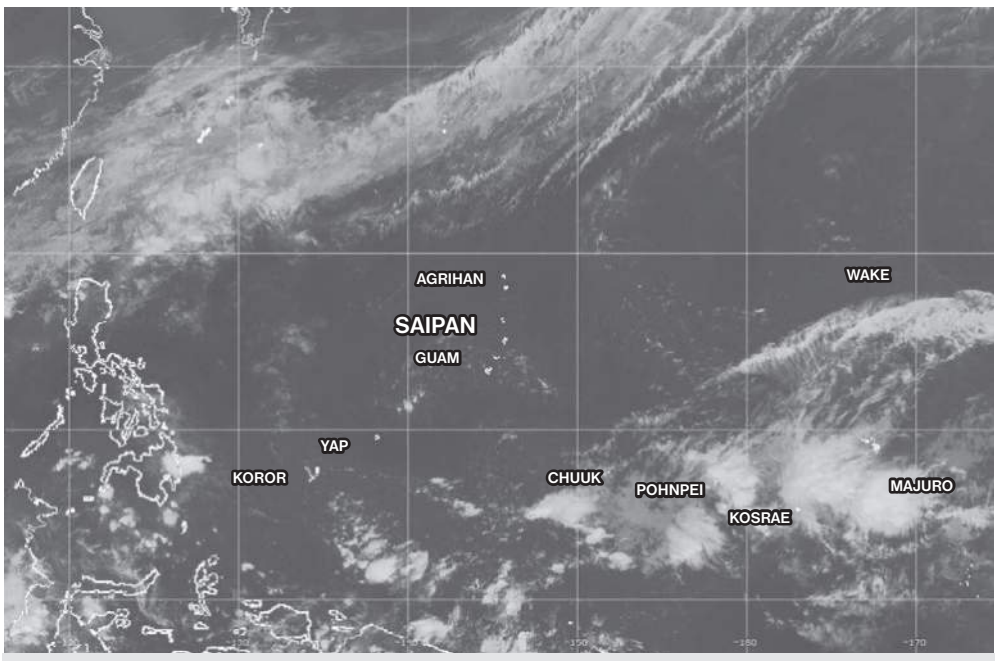
So now it looks like we are going to have to fight for them all over again. Right when there are so many other very important things to do.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
Mostly sunny, with Isolated showers. East wind 16 to 18 mph, with gusts as high as 23 mph.	Mostly sunny, with Isolated showers. East wind 14 to 17 mph, with gusts as high as 21 mph.	Mostly sunny, with Isolated showers.	Partly sunny, with a chance of showers.	Partly sunny, with a chance of showers.
87° 78°	88° 78	88° 78°	88° 78°	88° 78°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 6:26 AM, WEDNESDAY, MAY 4, 2022

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Moderate to fresh trades prevail in the Marianas, as a surface trough continues to move in with scattered showers today. Ritidian buoy indicates seas around 6 feet.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA	▲ ▼ °F	
Guam and Rota	Isolated Thunderstorms	30 / 26 °F
Palau	PM Thunderstorms	29 / 25 °F
Yap	Mostly Sunny	30 / 26 °F
Chuuk	Scattered Thunderstorms	29 / 26 °F
Pohnpei	Scattered Thunderstorms	30/ 25 °F
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	29 / 26 °F
Majuro	Thunderstorms	28 / 26 °F

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	05:52 AM	18:35 PM
Friday	05:51 AM	18:35 PM
Saturday	05:51 AM	18:36 PM
Sunday	05:50 AM	18:36 PM
Monday	05:50 AM	18:36 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	08:54	22:24 PM	-
Friday	09:44	23:14 PM	-
Saturday	10:36	-	-
Sunday	-	00:01 PM	11:29 PM
Monday	-	00:46 PM	12:21 PM

AROUND THE GLOBE	▲ ▼ °F	
Auckland	Mostly Sunny	21 /12 °F
Beijing	Mostly Cloudy	33 / 18 °F
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	27 / 23 °F
Honolulu	Mostly Cloudy	27 / 22 °F
London	Partly Cloudy	20 / 9 °F
Los Angeles	Mostly Sunny	27 / 14 °F
Manila	Sunny	36 / 27 °F
Melbourne	PM Showers	14 / 6 °F
Miami	Partly Cloudy	29 / 24 °F
New York	Mostly Sunny	23 / 12 °F
Osaka	Mostly Cloudy	24 / 14 °F
Paris	Partly Cloudy	21 / 9 °F
Busan	Sunny	21 / 14 °F
Rome	Showers	22 / 15 °F
Salem	Partly Cloudy	31 / 19 °F
San Francisco	Mostly Sunny	15 / 11 °F
Seoul	Sunny	25 / 11 °F
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	25 / 16 °F
Washington, DC	Mostly Cloudy	21 / 14°F

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY	FEET	
04:47 AM	Low Tide	1.33
09:04 AM	High Tide	1.69
4:39 PM	Low Tide	-0.00
-	High Tide	-

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 1, 2022

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA117	6:35AM	7:15AM	1, 3, 6
UA117	9:50AM	10:35AM	2, 4, 5, 7

GUAM-MANILA (MNL)

PR 111	6:00AM	8:00AM	1, 3, 5, 6, 7
UA193	7:05PM	10:55PM	5 via Palau
UA183	7:10PM	9:10PM	Daily

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

UA117/183	6:35AM	9:10PM	1, 3, 6 via Guam
UA117/193	6:35AM	10:55PM	5 via Guam, Palau
UA117/183	9:50AM	9:10PM	2, 4, 5, 7 via Guam

SAIPAN-INCHEON (ICN)

TW9308	3:30PM	7:20PM	4, 7
7C3405	3:30PM	7:25PM	6
RS112	3:45PM	7:30PM	3, 6
7C3405	3:50PM	7:45PM	3
OZ624	4:00PM	7:40PM	3, 6

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

BX622	3:10PM	6:30PM	3, 7

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA116	5:00AM	5:45AM	1, 3, 6
UA116	8:00AM	8:45AM	5, 7
UA174	8:00AM	8:45AM	2, 4

MANILA (MNL)-GUAM

PR110	10:35PM	4:35AM+1	2, 4, 5, 6, 7
UA184	10:25PM	4:20AM+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA192	10:25PM	6:05AM+1	5 via Palau
UA184	11:50PM	5:40AM+1	5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA184/116	10:25PM	5:45AM+1	2, 5, 7 via Guam
UA184/116	10:25PM	8:45AM+1	1, 3 via Guam
UA184/174	10:25PM	8:45AM+1	4, 6 via Guam

INCHEON (ICN)-SAIPAN

7C3406	8:30AM	2:10PM	6
RS111	8:45AM	2:05PM	3, 6
7C3406	8:50AM	2:30PM	3
TW9307	9:00AM	2:30PM	4, 7
OZ623	9:00AM	2:30PM	3, 6

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

BX621	8:00AM	1:10PM	3, 7

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines; PR, Philippine Airlines; TW, T'Way Air; OZ, Asiana Airlines; 7C, Jeju Air; BX, Air Busan • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 18, 2021

SAIPAN TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1301	8:30AM	9:00AM	Daily
1302	11:00AM	11:30AM	Daily
1303	1:30PM	2:00PM	Tues/Wed/ Thurs/Fri
1304	3:30PM	4:00PM	Daily

ROTA TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3101	9:30AM	10:00AM	Daily
3102	12:00AM	12:30AM	Daily
3103	1:30PM	3:00PM	Tues/Wed/ Thurs/Fri
3104	4:30PM	5:00PM	Daily

ROTA TO GUAM

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15	12:45	Temporarily Unavailable

GUAM TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
4301	13:00	13:30	Temporarily Unavailable

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1201	7:00	7:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1202	8:00	8:15	Daily
1203	9:00	9:15	Daily
1204	10:00	10:15	Daily
1205	11:00	11:15	Daily
1206	12:00	12:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1207	13:00	13:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1208	14:00	14:15	Daily
1209	15:00	15:15	Daily
1210	16:00	16:15	Daily
1211	17:00	17:15	Daily
1212	17:00	17:15	Temporarily Unavailable

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
2101	7:30	7:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2102	8:30	8:45	Daily
2103	9:30	9:45	Daily
2104	10:30	10:45	Daily
2105	11:30	11:45	Daily
2106	12:30	12:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2107	13:30	13:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2108	14:30	14:45	Daily
2109	15:30	15:45	Daily
2110	16:30	16:45	Daily
2111	17:30	17:45	Daily
2112	18:30	18:45	Temporarily Unavailable

STOP THE SPREAD

The Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. continue to encourage residents within the Marianas to practice social distancing, which means avoiding close contact with people in order to avoid catching the virus yourself and to avoid passing it on to others.

■ Stay home as much as possible. Avoid unnecessary travel or public places.

■ Avoid social gatherings in groups of more than 10.

■ Choose drive-thru, take-out, or delivery options, or outdoor seating, if available, when dining in.

■ Send only one healthy adult from the household run necessary errands, such as getting groceries or picking up medications. Leave children, elderly, and other vulnerable people at home as much as possible. When returning home from an errand, wash your hands before doing anything else.

■ Older adults and people with chronic medical conditions are at higher risk of getting very sick from this illness. People at high risk should stay at home as much as possible.

■ Create a household plan of action, https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/checklisthousehold-ready.html

■ Ensure a 30-day supply of all medicines.

Continue good hand hygiene

■ Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water, avoid touching your face, cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or your sleeve.

■ Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not readily available.

Know the signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and what to do if you become symptomatic

■ Stay home when you are sick and if you recently traveled to a place with COVID-19. Self-quarantine means:

• Choosing a room in your house that can be used to separate sick household members from others.

• Washing your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.

• Avoiding touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.

• Limiting visitors

CHCC appreciates the patience and understanding of the community at this time. To obtain general information about the CNMI COVID-19 response, contact the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force Hotline at 287-0046, 287-0489, 287-1089. These numbers are available Monday to Sunday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For medical information about COVID-19, reach out to the COVID-19 Infoline at the following numbers: 285-1672/1352. These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For mental health support and helpful tips during a crisis, call the Mental Health Support Line at 285-1856, 323-6560, 323-6561 These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30 pm. For the 24/7 Disaster Distress Helpline, call SAMSHA at 1-800-985-5990.

For more information about DIY face coverings, visit https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover.html

For more information about CHCC programs, follow CHCC on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter at @cnmichcc, check out our website at www.chcc.gov.mp or call us at (670) 234-8950.

For more information on the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force, visit www.governor.gov.mpand, follow @GovernorCNMI on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

This health advisory may be found online at http://www.chcc.gov.mp/pressrelease.html and at www.governor.gov.mp/covid-19.

Rumor control

During crises like this, oftentimes the spread of misinformation is just as dangerous as the virus itself. The CNMI is reminded to only share official and verified notices, press releases, and advisories from the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and CHCC.

Source: Office of the Governor

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

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ISLANDWIDE CLEANUP

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

McDonald's Saipan employees had their picture taken after participating in the Islandwide Cleanup last April 22, 2022. "We always encourage our employees to participate and support community improvement events," said the company in a statement.

DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT SERVICES
CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB22-DCCA/NAP-42200097

SUBMISSION DATE: June 06, 2022 TIME: 9:00 A.M.

"OFFICE SPACE FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS, NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (TINIAN BRANCH)"

COPIES OF SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT SERVICES, LOCATED AT THE HORIGUCHI BLDG. GROUND FLOOR 123 KOPPA DI ORU & BEACH ROAD, GARAPAN, SAIPAN, DURING REGUALR WORKING HOURS.

****FOR YOUR SAFETY & OURS: ALL INTERESTED INDIVIDUALS ARE REQUIRED TO USE A FACE MASK & ARE REQUIRED TO REGISTER UPON ENTRY****

THE LESSOR MUST COMPLY WITH PUBLIC LAW 15-23, ARTICLE 5, SECTION 8652 (A-D)

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ JOSEPH P. DELEON GUERRERO
SECRETARY OF DCCA

/S/ FRANCISCO C. AGUON
ACTING DIRECTOR, PS

NORTHERN MARIANAS COLLEGE
Procurement & Property Management Office
P.O. Box 501250 • Saipan, MP 96950 U.S.A.
Phone: (670) 234-5498 Ext. 6824 | www.marianas.edu

ARCHITECTURAL & ENGINEERING SERVICES
PLANNING, DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES PROJECT

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATION STATEMENTS
NMCRQS 22-002

Northern Marianas College (The College) is soliciting for interested firms "Qualification Statements" for Architectural/Engineering Services for the "Workforce Development and Training Center.

The request for "Statement of Qualification (RQS)" packets are available at NMC, Procurement Office commencing 10:00am Friday, April 29, 2022 for Electronic packet email request to anita.camacho@marianas.edu.

Pre-submittal conference is schedule for 09:00am-10:00am, May 11, 2022 CNMI Via Zoom. Attendance is not mandatory but is strongly recommended.

Qualification Statements Submissions
Due date and time: 10:00am, May 31, 2022 (CNMI)
Procurement & Property Management Office, Bldg. P, As Terlaje Campus

Paid for by 100% federal funds through the Department of Commerce Economic Development Investment Grant.

This Request for Statement of Qualification under Article 7, "Local Business Preference" as amended by Public Law 15-95 and as further amended by Public Law 15-118, is not available for this procurement.

This solicitation does not constitute an offer and does not obligate the College in any way. The College reserves the right to reject any and/or all Qualification Statements for any reason and waive any defect in said Qualification Statements, or cancel in part or its entirety this Request for Qualification Statements, if it deems, in its sole discretion, it is in the best interest of the College.

Approved by:

/s/ Anita Camacho
Procurement & Property Manager

NMI to celebrate May 8-14 as National Hospital Week

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres signed Tuesday at the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. the proclamation that designates the week of May 8-14, 2022, as National Hospital Week.

The proclamation states that National Hospital Week is an opportunity to highlight the Commonwealth Health Center, Tinian Health Center, and Rota Health Center, and the more than 850 health care workers and the innovative ways they support the CNMI community.

The proclamation recognizes that health care workers of the CNMI not only met the challenge of the COVID-19 pandemic, but also continue to play a critical role in the CNMI's COVID-19 response efforts while providing routine health care for the people of the CNMI.

"Hospitals and nurses support the needs of patients and community. National Hospital Week is a time for everyone—individuals, employers, other health care professionals, community leaders and nurses—to recognize the positive impact that health care workers have on our families and friends," it added."We are honored to celebrate the individuals who are working tirelessly to help others in their greatest time of need, especially during recent periods when the CNMI was experiencing COVID-19 surges."

The American Hospital Association's theme of "We are Health Care" recognizes the individuals who work in America's hospitals and health systems and asks the public to join in this effort to help celebrate National Hospital Week by showing support to all health care workers.

"I call upon all citizens of the Commonwealth to take an active interest in their health by visiting a doctor or nurse to receive regular check-ups and preventive screenings, staying active, and eating healthy," Torres said. ***(Saipan Tribune)***

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality
Division of Coastal Resources Management
P.O. Box 501304, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 664-8300; Fax: (670) 664-8315
www.dcrm.gov.mp

Eli D. Cabrera, Administrator
Richard V. Salas, Director, DCRM

PUBLIC NOTICE

From the COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
COASTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM
of the DIVISION OF COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

DATE: May 5, 2022

NOTICE: The Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality (BECQ) Division of Coastal Resources Management (DCRM) is currently reviewing a federal consistency certification from the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) regarding the reissuance of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits for the continued operation of the Agingan Wastewater Treatment Plant (MP0020028) and the Sadog Tasi Wastewater Treatment Plant (MP0020010). More information about the proposed activity may be requested through fedcon@dcrm.gov.mp, or accessed via the DCRM website at: https://dcrm.gov.mp/wp-content/uploads/crm/CUC-CZMA-Review-NPDES-Permits-Agingan-Sadog-Tasi-1.pdf.

Federal consistency is a provision of the Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) that requires federal actions that affect the coastal zone to be consistent to the maximum extent practicable with the enforceable policies of a state's federally approved coastal management program (CMP). Comments on whether the project is consistent with the enforceable policies of the CNMI's CMP can be submitted to the Division of Coastal Resources Management at fedcon@dcrm.gov.mp.

This public notice is published for compliance with 15 CFR § 930.61. DCRM is soliciting public comments for 21 days, starting on May 5, 2022 and ending on May 26, 2022. We welcome your feedback and thank you for your consideration.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID
RFP NO.: DPW22-RFP No.: 42200094

SUBMISSION DATE: May 23, 2022 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"Engineering and Design Related Services"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE TECHNICAL SERVICES DIVISION, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, LOCATED ON SECOND FLOOR, OLEAI JOETEN COMMERCIAL CENTER, SAN JOSE, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

The RFP Package and Scope of Work is available on or after **April 22, 2022** at the Department of Public Works, Technical Services Division 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center.

There will be a **Pre-Proposal Conference** for this project on **May 10, 2022,** 9:00 a.m. local time at the Department of Public Works Conference Room 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center Office, Saipan. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All question regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on **May 17, 2022** to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ JAMES A. ADA
SECRETARY, DPW

/S/ FRANCISCO C. AGUON
ACTING DIRECTOR,
DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT SERVICES

Rodrigo R. Gatela
P.O. Box 505072, Saipan, MP 96950
789-7800

Pro Se

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

RODRIGO R. GATELA Petitioner	:	FCD-DI CIVIL ACTION NO. 21-0314-FCD
-vs-		
PETRONILA R. GATELA Respondent	:	SUMMONS TO ANSWER COMPLAINT FOR DIVORCE

TO: PETRONILA R. GATELA
YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is given to you herewith, within thirty (30) days after service of the Summons upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to RODRIGO R. GATELA whose address is P.O. Box 505072 Saipan, MP 96950 as soon as practical after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or Mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice. If you fail to file and answer in accordance with this summons, judgment by default may be taken against you for relief in the complaint.

Dated this 23rd day of July, 2021

/s/_____
CLERK OF COURT

Robert Tenorio Torres
Attorney at Law
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)
P.O. Box 500730, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 234-7859 | Fax. (670) 234-5749
Attorney for Petitioner
Merced M. Tomokane for Claimant Bank of Guam

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF: ROGER WILLIAM S.N TAISACAN, Decedent.	:	Civil Action No. 22-0041 AMENDED NOTICE OF HEARING ON PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION; NOTICE TO CREDITORS Date: June 2, 2022 Time: 10:00 a.m. Judge: Camacho

TO: THE GENERAL PUBLIC, ANY HEIRS, CLAIMANTS, OR CREDITORS OF THE LATE ROGER WILLIAM S.N. TAISACAN OR OF HIS ESTATE:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Petitioner, **Merced M. Tomokane** for Creditor Bank of Guam, of Saipan, CNMI ("Petitioner"), has petitioned the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands for Letter of Administration of the **Estate of Roger William S.N. Taisacan, Decedent**. The attorney for Petitioner is **Robert T. Torres Esq., whose address is Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, P.O. Box 500730, Saipan, MP 96950**. The hearing on the Petition for Letters of Administration by Merced M. Tomokane, as Petitioner for Creditor Bank of Guam, is scheduled to be heard on **June 2, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.**, at the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guma'

Respectfully submitted this ____ day of March 2022.

/s/_____
ROBERT T. TORRES – F0197
Attorney for Petitioner

Torres joins first Saipan Fitbeat Lions Club Challenge

By LEIGH GASES
leigh_gases@saipantribune.com
CORRESPONDENT

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres gamely joined the Saipan Fitbeat Lions Club's Fitbeat Challenge as the first "challenger" during Tuesday night's Zumba session at the Garapan Round House.

Torres was joined by first lady Diann Torres and their son for the Zumba session that also featured members of the Zumba Fitbeat group and other members of the public.

The Fitbeat Challenge, which the Fitbeat group, launched this month, polled their members on who they want to be the first challenger, and the majority chose Torres. The challenger is anyone in the community whom the group thinks will have a great impact if they participate in a Zumba session. If they don't want to participate in the Zumba or Core classes, they will have to make a donation to the Saipan Fitbeat Lions Club or any charity of their choice.

"I just came to show support and this is my first time to try Zumba. The first lady has been doing Fitbeat and now with the challenge…I'm excited and nervous at the same time because these people have been doing this for a long time," said Torres.

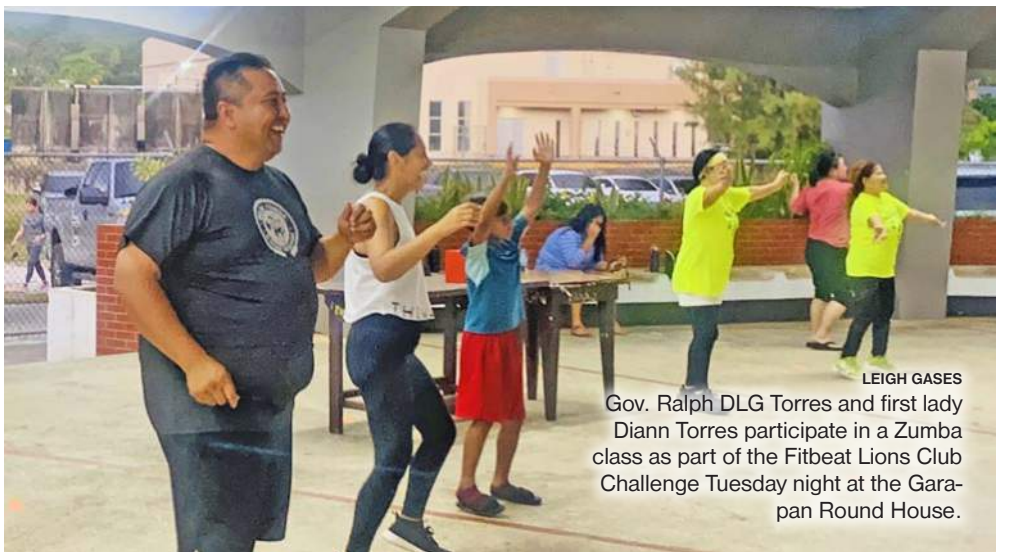
Irene Tantiado, who is president of the Saipan Fitbeat Lions Club, said their challenge is similar to the "ice bucket challenge," where people nominate and vote for a challenger and whoever has the highest number of votes is the challenger of the week.

Tantiado added that challengers are given an option to either join the core class or the Zumba class. For Torres, they chose Zumba for him because he hasn't done it before.

According to Tantiado, this also coincides with Torres' 'Fit 2 Lead' initiative.

"We just want him to continue to inspire, because he's already inspiring a lot of people to exercise. By joining here, hopefully he can inspire more people to exercise and promote our club because we're here Monday through Saturday," added Tantiado.

The free core class is from 5:30pm to 6:30pm and the free Zumba class is from 6:30pm to 7:30pm, all located at the Garapan Central Park, Round House. There are currently five certified Zumba instructors for their group.



LEIGH GASES
Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and first lady Diann Torres participate in a Zumba class as part of the Fitbeat Lions Club Challenge Tuesday night at the Garapan Round House.

3 ex-employees to settle lawsuit vs. supermarket

Three employees who accused a supermarket in San Antonio last year of labor violations and trafficking have reached a settlement agreement in the case.

The complainants, through their lawyers, Joseph Horey and Michael Dotts, told the U.S District Court for the NMI last Tuesday that they will soon be asking the court to dismiss their lawsuit as part of the settlement.

"The settlement agreement provides for the parties to file a stipulated dismissal of this action upon the occurrence of a condition, which condition they have agreed will occur on or before May 22, 2022," Horey said. "The settlement agreement also calls for the court to maintain jurisdiction of this matter in order to enforce the terms of the agreement."

According to Saipan Tribune archives, Md. Ashiquzzaman, Mir Fozle Mehedi, and Md. Sazedul Islam sued Mir Corp. (doing business as Toha Supermarket) last September for allegedly failing to pay them the wages they were promised and for allegedly confiscating their passports so they couldn't work anywhere else.

Ashiquzzaman was employed at Toha Supermarket as a butcher from July 2016 to December 2018. Mehedi was employed as a maintenance worker and farmer from September 2016 to June 2017. Islam was employed doing a variety of jobs from 2015 to March 2021.

They allege that Mir Corp. paid them at a rate of less than $6.05 per hour, which is significantly lower than the current minimum wage and lower than promised in their CNMI-Only CW-1 visa petition.

As for the trafficking allegations, the plaintiffs allege that Mir Corp. "confiscated their passports in an "attempt to prevent or restrict…plaintiffs' liberty to move or travel in order to maintain their labor services."

Mir Corp. also allegedly collected recruitment fees from them in the amount of at least $10,000 upon the representation that they would work in good jobs and earn salaries of up to $2,000 per month and obtain permanent residency. ***(Leigh Gases)***

DYS to stop accepting applications for PEAF

The Division of Youth Services of the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota will stop distributing and accepting applications for Pandemic Emergency Assistance Funds beginning today, May 5, 2022.

Although a previous public announcement indicated an application period of April 25 to Aug. 31, it also indicated that applications will be available "until application period is done or funds are depleted, whichever comes first." The DCCA DYS has now reached the number of needed applications to exhaust the grant budget, therefore it will not be accepting any more applications effective today.

For additional questions, contact Zina C. Nekaifes at (670) 237-1000 or via email at znekaifes@dys.gov.mp or Rowena R. Relado at (670) 237-1002 or via email at rrelado@dys.gov.mp. ***(PR)***

DEATH & FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENT

†Ramon Eugenio Castro Delacruz

AKA: RAMON APIGIGI/RAMBO/BO/RAY
SUNRISE APRIL 26 , 1968 SUNSET APRIL 21, 2022

In His New Life He is Welcome in Heaven by His:
Grandson: †Kalen Jase Santos
Father: †Manuel Tenorio Delacruz (Karisu)
Mother: †Maria Santos Castro Delacruz (Apigigi)
Brother and In-Laws: †Antonio Castro Delacruz, †Antonio Tudela Torres and †Pedro James Toves
Paternal Grand Parents: †Encarnacion Tenorio Delacruz
†Eugenio Cruz Villagomez/ Antonia/ Ana
Maternal Grand Parents: †Antonio Villagomez Castro (Marceliano)
†Veronica Pangelinan Santos Castro (Lencho)

Aunties/Uncles and In-Law:
Rafael M. Reyes, Frederica V./Juan M. Diaz, Jose I. Torres, Cornelio T. Castro, Heman T./Agnes M. Villagomez, Jose T./Romana L. Villagomez, Sylverio S. Castro, Victorino S. Castro, Rita C./Galu Jasangas, Vicente S. Castro, Jose S. Castro, Margarita C./Ronald J. Toves and Albert U. Charfauros

Cousins and In-Laws:
Richard Dlc. Camacho, Jeffrey V. Diaz, Cristopher Sablan, Steven and Josephine Castro, Antonio B. Castro, Eileen J. Grey, Isabelle, Joseph and Ronald C. Toves

His Spirit, Laughter and Memories will forever live within the Hearts of His:
Wife: Isabelita Magtuto Delacruz
Children and Grand Children:
Karen - (Kariah Jaide, Jonaiah Kaleen, Keelin Jaye And Jessiah Kole)
Jesus - (Jonae Shivon and Jayda Evonne
Keilani - (Koa Ray Hokulea)
Sister's Spouse, Children and Grand Children:
Lynda Dlc. Toves
Consolacion(Connie) Dlc. Torres
Christine T./Sylvan O. Igisomar (Landon Anthony and Christian Max)
Ana Maria Dlc. Torres
Ana (Annie) C. Delacruz/Roy F. Ichihara
Kimberly (Thomas Manuel, Mitrail Jr. and Mia Pilar)
RM Jocelyn
Josephine Dlc./Fred Ga
Mother of His Children: Christina B. Quogana
Baptismal/Confirmation God Parents: †Rafael M./ Merced V. Reyes
Marriage God Parents: Roman V. Reyes and Dolores Dlg. Yamagishi

Aunties and Families:
Merced V. Reyes, Bernadita V. Torres, Jacquina V. Castro, The CHILDREN of the Late Frederica, Herman and Jose, Joy and Jose (Boboy) Villagomez, Lydia H. Castro, Luisa B. Castro, Francisca S. Castro, Zenaida Castro, Francisca C. Charfauros, The CHILDREN of the Late Rita and Margarita.

Numerous Aunties, Uncles, Cousins and Friends
NMC FAMILY
NORTH FAMILY

On May 9, 2022 at 8:00am, his remains will be transported from Borja Funeral Homes to Our Lady of Mount Carmel Cathedral. Responso service will be begin upon arrival followed by Holy Rosary and public viewing. Funeral Mass will be celebrated at 11:00am followed by interment service at Mount Carmel Cemetery where he will be laid in peaceful rest.

Un Dangkulu Na Si Yu'us Ma'ase, Thank you, Salamat po, Olomwaay
THE FAMILY

Environment

DFW, USFWS, Pacific Bird Conservation team up to save birds

By IVA MAURIN
CORRESPONDENT

In the last seven decades, brown tree snakes practically decimated almost all of the native bird population in Guam, wiping out nine of 11 of the island's native forest birds, putting at risk the health of its forests, along with the many species that depend on the habitat.

Imagine how it would be if this also happens to birds in the CNMI.

Currently, the CNMI has a very robust Brown Tree Snake program run by the CNMI Division of Fish and Wildlife under the Department of Lands and Natural Resources, with traps in seaports and airports and with barriers created and managed where inspections of transportation vessels, cargos, and warehouses are held to detect the snakes.

In addition, taking the lessons from what happened in the '50s and is still happening in Guam, the DFW also initiated the Marianas Avifauna Conservation program with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife and the Association of Zoos & Aquariums in 2004, with the objective of creating a bio-reserve for native birds to secure them from the threat of brown tree snakes.

The MAC program is a long-term bird conservation project directed by the local government, with support from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and now with the Pacific Bird Conservation, which, for the past several years, has been working with DFW to translocate the islands' native bird species.

"It's a 30-year plan," PBC education coordinator Keri Lammering told *Saipan Tribune*, "and every year two species of birds are selected to be caught in the wild, brought into human care for about two weeks, and then translocated—moved to an uninhabited island in the northern portions of the CNMI, on the belief that if there's not a population living there, then there wouldn't be cargo ships that could potentially bring the brown tree snake."

The team is currently on island, guided by this year's mission to translocate the Mariana Fruit Dove (*Totot; Mwee'mwe*) and the Rufous Fantail (*Chichirika; Liteghi par*) to the island of Guguan.

IVA MAURIN
Pacific Bird Conservation veterinarians and vet technicians look after the Mariana Fruit Doves that were caught and placed inside these home enclosures to get them ready to be translocated to the island of Guguan.

IVA MAURIN
Pacific Bird Conservation education coordinator Keri Lammering is calling on the community to help forest birds through forest restoration work. PBC has partnered with the Mariana Islands Nature Alliance to plant native trees to help the bird population grow in the CNMI.

A Mariana Fruit Dove is fed inside the Care Room. Pacific Bird Conservation vets and vet technicians make sure to feed the birds, that they are not stressed, before getting translocated to Guguan.
IVA MAURIN

DFW supplies all of the field work for the program, and researches and identifies which species are best suited for a particular island.

"They also determine that by releasing those birds on those islands—that they are not affecting the natural populations that already lived there because they don't want to bring in something that would out-compete [the existing species]. They want to make sure that they don't affect the natural balance on any of those islands," Lammering added.

Collecting the birds

PBC comes to the island for three weeks, typically in mid-April to the beginning of May, and for two weeks, to install mist nets in the forests. Lammering explained that mist nets are "really fine nets" that are put up between two poles, "so fine that the birds don't see it," and so when birds fly into it, they get caught in the net.

"The keepers, the Pacific Bird Conservation group, they have a system where they check the nets every five to 15 minutes, or if the net is in the full sun, they sit right by them and so they can get birds out immediately—all in the idea that you never want to stress out a bird, overheat it. They want to get it out of the net quickly so they're able to take the birds out of the net unharmed."

Non-target species, or birds that are not the target to be caught for a particular year are released. Target birds that are caught are put in transport boxes and are brought to a Care Room, located at the Beach Garden Hotel in Chichirica Ave., Garapan.

"They have a vet and a vet tech that would look the bird over in the wild to make sure that it looks okay, that it's not showing any signs of stress," Lammering said. "Then it's put into the transport box. It only stays in the field for a very short period of time because they want to get it back to the Care Room, and make sure it gets some food and gets into its home enclosure for that remaining time before the translocation."

The two target birds this year—Rufous Fantail and Mariana Fruit Dove—are sexually-dimorphic, meaning one cannot tell whether they are male or female just by looking at them, so PBC had to measure the birds (wings, various parts of the body) and take tiny little blood sample from underneath their wings, which are sent to the lab to be DNA'd, basically, to identify the sex of the bird.

The measurements are needed so in the future, when they collect birds, they will be able to easily determine males and females before the birds are released.

"We want to make sure that we have a nice mix. We release on an island two times. We have a population that's released, and then the DFW has biologists that come up to those islands, do a census, and look at how those birds are doing. They're all banded, and they have different color bands for each year so they can look at the bird and know that 'oh, that one was released in, like, 2019.'"

Ensuring the birds are safe

The safety of the Mariana birds are of utmost priority—from collection to feeding, from safekeeping to release and translocation. The MAC program still has a long way to end as planned on 2032; however, along the way, adjustments had to be made on species that are being collected.

"This year, we had some readjustment. We were collecting rufous fantails, we had about between 30 and 35 birds. We have done them before and had success with them, but this year, when we had them in our care, some of the birds were showing signs of stress," Lammering said.

"It was concerning to the Bird Team. They did not want to harm any of the birds and they still could not quite adjust to get to where the birds were not showing signs of stress. And so they made the hard choice on the benefit of the welfare of the birds to take the 30 that they had and release them back into the wild. All 30 because we didn't feel comfortable with them doing the translocation successfully."

Lammering stressed that with the solid goal of not harming any birds, the team decided to just release the Rufous Fantails this year. They are also trying to put all the puzzle pieces together on what happened this year so that hopefully next year or in the coming years, PBC can try collect and move the species again.

"The ones we're going to translocate this year will be the *totot*. We have 20 *totot* that are doing well, not showing any signs of stress, the weights are maintaining or gaining, and so they feel very confident moving those to Guguan as the targeted island this year."

Success rate

The MAC program has been doing very well, according to Lammering, adding that when they do census work, they see the birds are doing well. "They're finding un-banded birds, which means they're happy, they've had babies. Everything so far as is going very nicely."

In addition to the translocation program, PBC is also working to have a deeper engagement with the local community. They are providing micro internships with high school students, have field trips for high school students to see the work being done, and are working with the Public School System. PBC has also partnered with the Mariana Islands Nature Alliance.

"There's this big effort to put back native trees and so we're partnering with MINA who does that restoration work. MINA does so much forest restoration work. That's another thing that these birds desperately need because so many non-native or invasive plant species were put onto this island."

"If people want to help forest birds, they can contact MINA on best ways to obtain native trees that they can either plant in their yards, or work with their schools and plant native trees around their schools to give that nice habitat for the birds," Lammering added.

PBC was set to translocate the Mariana Fruit Doves to Guguan last Tuesday, May 3.

For more information about the MAC program, visit the DFW office in Lower Base, or their website, http://www.dfw.gov.mp/Wildlife/MAC_Project.html; or visit www.pacificbirdconservation.org, https://www.facebook.com/PacificBirdConservation.

Life & Style

Mom wonders how to reveal youngest son's parentage

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

DEAR ABBY: I have a wonderful 12-year-old son, "Oliver," who was conceived during a date rape at a work party. I don't remember much about that night. When I found out I was pregnant, I hoped my husband at the time was the father. When the baby came, it was obvious he wasn't, because Oliver is a different race. (I am Caucasian, and I'm thinking Oliver may be Pacific Islander.)

We divorced when Oliver was 2, and my ex had a DNA test, which, of course, proved he was not the father. Despite the findings, after I explained what happened, he offered to be Oliver's "dad" because he had bonded with him—provided he would not have to pay child support. I agreed. I have two other older sons whom he fathered.

There have been times when Oliver and his brothers have asked about his brown skin, and I have been able to dodge the question. He's getting to an age where I don't think I can hold off much longer.

I always knew the time would come when he would have to know his dad is not his biological father, but I'm not sure what to tell him. I don't think I want him to know he is a product of rape, nor do I want to throw myself under the bus and say I cheated on his dad. That would open up questions about who his bio dad is. Please help.

LOOKING FOR BEST WAY IN WASHINGTON

DEAR LOOKING: I fail to understand why you would equate "rape" with "cheating." What happened wasn't your fault, and you should feel neither guilt nor shame that it happened. While I understand your desire to protect Oliver, you should tell him the truth. When you do, be sure to emphasize how much you and your ex love him and how proud you are that he is your son.

■■■■

DEAR ABBY: I'm in the process of building my first house down the street from my parents. (The lot was a good deal.) Recently, my mom told me she wants a key so she and Dad can have access to my house in case of severe weather (we live in tornado country). The layout and foundation of my house are sturdier than theirs. When I told her I didn't want anyone to have a key, she got really offended. It made me feel awful, but Abby, this is my first house, and if I have to give a key to someone when I don't want to, it defeats the purpose of having my own place.

I have been living with my parents to save up, and Mom has used guilt trips against me before. My sister and brother-in-law agree I shouldn't give in to her. I feel like a horrible daughter for refusing because she's not the type to snoop, but there have been instances when I've been in my room and she has entered without knocking. Should I stick to my guns or am I wrong?

DAUGHTER IN DILEMMA

DEAR DAUGHTER: It strikes me as somewhat pushy that your mother would ask for a key to your home before it is even completed. What have your parents done during previous tornadoes? Because the house symbolizes your independence, I don't think you should hand the key over. It may make sense to have someone you trust be able to enter if you are traveling or have a pet that needs to be walked while you are working. In that event, you may change your mind and see the wisdom in offering her one.

P.S. If she abuses your trust, you can always have your locks changed.

Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $16 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Depp trial: Psychologist testifies actor assaulted Heard

Depp

Heard

FALLS CHURCH, Va. (AP)—Actor Amber Heard suffered post-traumatic stress disorder from violence she suffered at the hands of her ex-husband Johnny Depp, including multiple acts of sexual assault, a psychologist testified Tuesday.

The sexual assaults included being forced to perform oral sex and having Depp penetrate her with a liquor bottle, the psychologist, Dawn Hughes, told jurors at Depp's libel trial against Heard. He accuses her of falsely claiming in a newspaper op-ed piece that she was a victim of domestic violence.

Hughes' testimony contradicts that of a psychologist hired by Depp's lawyers, who said Heard was faking her symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder and suffered from borderline and histrionic personality disorders. Hughes disputed that Heard suffers from any personality disorder.

Hughes was the first witness to take the stand on Heard's behalf after Depp's lawyers rested their case Tuesday morning.

Hughes said there is corroboration of many of the instances of abuse, including apologies and admissions made by Depp to Heard and admissions he made to friends in text messages about his bad behavior when he drinks. In some cases, Heard told her therapists about the abuse contemporaneously, Hughes said.

Depp has said he never physically attacked Heard, and that she was the aggressor who routinely hit him and threw things at him through the course of their relationship.

Hughes, in her testimony, said Heard acknowledged that she did at times push and shove Depp, call him names and insult his parenting.

But Hughes said there's a difference in the violence when a smaller person strikes at a larger person, and that Depp's violence was intimidating and threatened her safety, but Heard's violence did not have the same effect on Depp.

"That's just physics; that's just proportional force," she said.

Much of the violence, Hughes said, stemmed from Depp's obsessive jealousy. He insisted she avoid nude scenes, if she worked at all, and accused her of affairs with actors Billy Bob Thornton and James Franco. If she did work on a film, Depp would call the director and others on set and say he "had eyes" there who would report to him if she fraternized improperly, Hughes said.

Ukrainian band teams up with Ed Sheeran for charity single

LONDON (AP)—"The sirens interrupted our sleep, grabbed in two suitcases everything that is in the past, then go!" sings Antytila frontman Taras Topolia on the Ukrainian band's new collaboration with Ed Sheeran.

It's a reworked version of Sheeran's hit single "2step." Topolia has added a new verse and created a video to promote the remix. The version was released Monday.

"I decided to explain in the lyrics how it was the first day of the war for me and for millions of Ukrainian people," the singer-songwriter—and now soldier—told the Associated Press on Tuesday, talking from Ukraine, on the frontline of the war against the Russian invasion.

In the music video, Topolia leans against the side of a military vehicle during a patrol with his battalion, the reality of life right now for this recording artist turned soldier.

"We were doing our job. And like driving and between the positions of our battle in the Ukrainian army and just stopped on the road and took the GoPro camera and shot this video. It took maybe 10 or 15 minutes."

He says that though it was dangerous, it made for a dramatic scene.

As a father of three, Topolia wanted the video—which shows a young family fleeing the war by car—to tell the story of the "painful and difficult situation" for Ukrainian children.

"Ukraine is not just only destruction and horrible war. Ukraine is also talented, talented people. And those kids that now have no possibility to dance, to sing, to increase their skills, to play in the playgrounds."

Met Gala brings in a record $17.4 million, museum says

NEW YORK (AP)—All that "gilded glamour" brought in some real gold. This year's Met Gala earned a record $17.4 million, museum officials said Tuesday.

The annual gala is a fundraiser for the self-funding Costume Institute of the Metropolitan Museum of Art. The money pays for operating the institute and putting on annual blockbuster exhibits like the current "In America: An Anthology of Fashion" which was launched at the gala Monday night and opens to the public May 7. That exhibit is part of a broader two-part exhibit exploring the roots of American fashion.

The gala is traditionally held the first Monday in May, but because of the pandemic, the 2021 version was held last September. The two galas together brought in $33.7 million, the institute said.

The theme of Monday's gala was "gilded glamour."

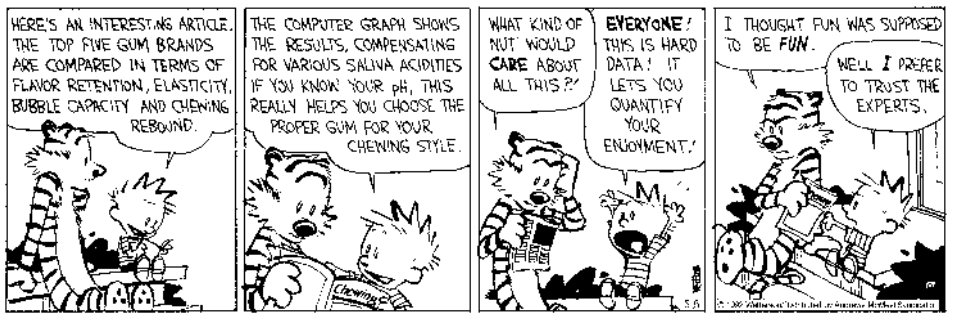
Monday's gala brought together about 400 guests—some of the biggest names from fashion, entertainment, sports and beyond.

AP
Tessa Thompson attends The Metropolitan Museum of Art's Costume Institute benefit gala celebrating the opening of the "In America: An Anthology of Fashion" exhibition on Monday, May 2, 2022, in New York.

Pastimes

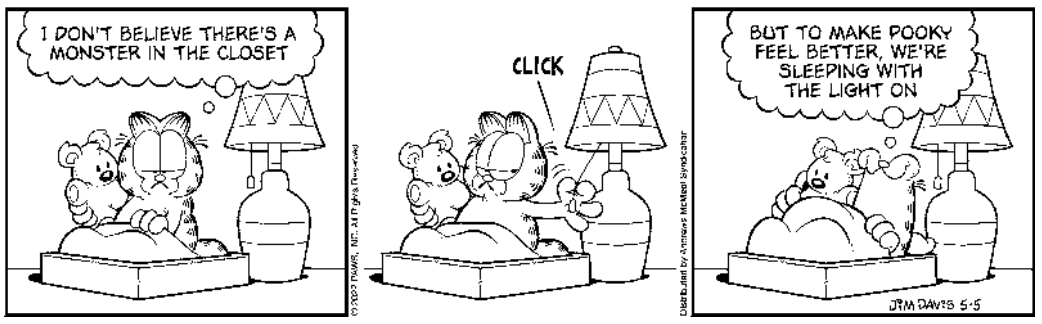
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


HERE'S AN INTERESTING ARTICLE. THE TOP FIVE GUM BRANDS ARE COMPARED IN TERMS OF FLAVOR RETENTION, ELASTICITY, BUBBLE CAPACITY AND CHEWING REBOUND.
THE COMPUTER GRAPH SHOWS THE RESULTS, COMPENSATING FOR VARIOUS SALIVA ACIDITIES IF YOU KNOW YOUR pH, THIS REALLY HELPS YOU CHOOSE THE PROPER GUM FOR YOUR CHEWING STYLE.
WHAT KIND OF NUT WOULD CARE ABOUT ALL THIS?!
EVERYONE! THIS IS HARD DATA! IT LETS YOU QUANTIFY YOUR ENJOYMENT.
I THOUGHT FUN WAS SUPPOSED TO BE FUN.
WELL I PREFER TO TRUST THE EXPERTS.

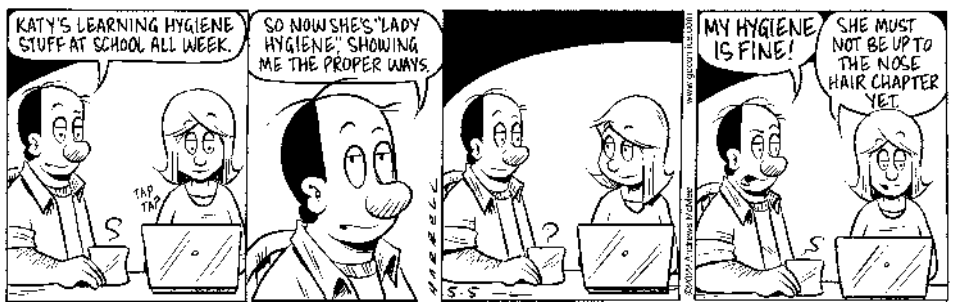
Garfield®

By Jim Davis


I DON'T BELIEVE THERE'S A MONSTER IN THE CLOSET
CLICK
BUT TO MAKE POOKY FEEL BETTER, WE'RE SLEEPING WITH THE LIGHT ON
JIM DAVIS 5-5

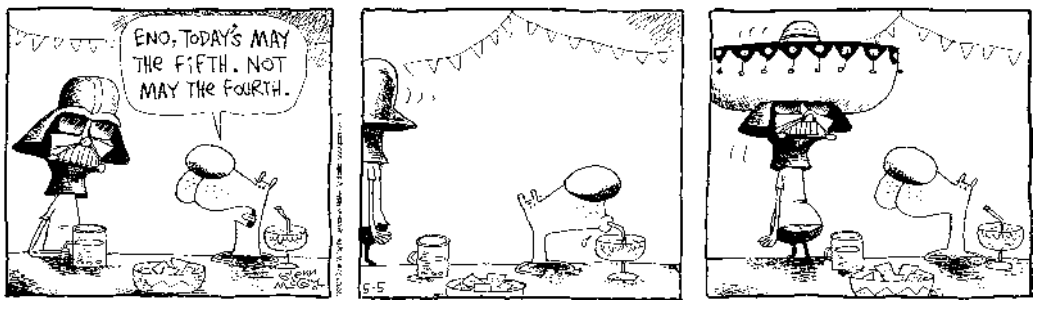
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


KATY'S LEARNING HYGIENE STUFF AT SCHOOL ALL WEEK.
SO NOW SHE'S "LADY HYGIENE" SHOWING ME THE PROPER WAYS.
TAP TAP
MY HYGIENE IS FINE!
SHE MUST NOT BE UP TO THE NOSE HAIR CHAPTER YET.

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

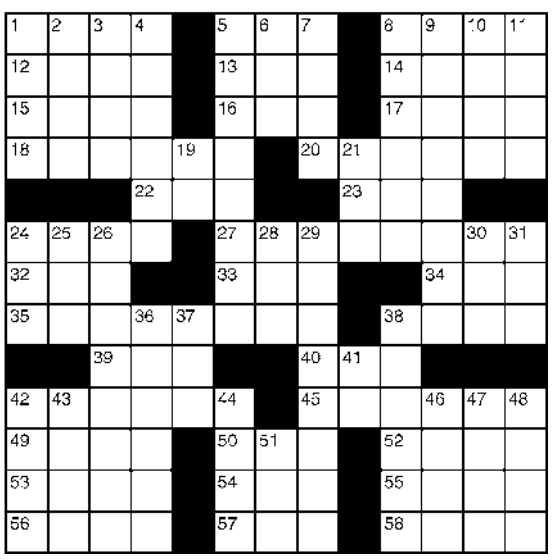
ACROSS
1 Biblical land
5 Soft shoe, for short
8 "So be it"
12 Prefix with byte
13 Spanish gold
14 Commotion
15 From the U.S.
16 "The Voice" network
17 Threaded fastener
18 Ray of "Goodfellas"
20 Each
22 ICU hookups
23 Glacial
24 Church song
27 Home to the Buccaneers
32 Old Olds
33 Altar affirmative
34 "— you kidding?"
35 Pre-Christmas barhopping tour
38 LAPD ranks
39 Former Delta rival
40 100 cts.
42 Actress Tomei
45 Colossus of —
49 Fortas and Lincoln
50 Jr.'s son
52 Sweet wine
53 Tidy
54 Genetic letters
55 Madame Bovary
56 Misfortunes
57 — Diego
58 Fly high

DOWN
1 Listending abbr.
2 Actress Moore
3 Popular cookie
4 Director Scorsese
5 Spartan and reclusive
6 Globe
7 "Cola" lead-in
8 Ancient Greek region
9 Cash carrier
10 PTA concern
11 Memo
19 Boob tube
21 Domino spot
24 Day fractions (Abbr.)
25 Verily
26 Quebec city
28 Big fuss
29 Dutch painter Piet
30 Curator's focus
31 "Of course"
36 Contorts
37 Small batteries
38 Skier's destination
41 "I see"
42 —-pedi
43 Cain's brother
44 Broadcasts
46 "—arigato"
47 Witty Bombeck
48 Luminary
51 — pickle

Solution time: 24 mins.

M	O	O	J	■	B	A	A	■	I	B	I	S
O	G	L	E	■	C	R	G	■	P	R	O	P
O	R	D	N	A	N	C	F	■	R	O	T	I
R	E	S	I	N	■	■	S	E	A	M	A	N
■	■	■	E	D	A	M	■	B	Y	A	■	■
R	A	P	S	■	C	A	R	B	■	N	E	D
O	V	A	■	H	A	Z	E	S	■	C	O	O
W	A	R	■	T	I	D	F	■	R	F	S	T
■	■	L	E	T	■	A	L	A	R	■	■	■
G	R	A	M	P	A	■	■	H	E	A	R	T
R	A	N	I	■	D	E	■	I	A	N	C	E
A	C	C	I	■	A	W	E	■	S	I	A	N
D	Y	E	S	■	M	E	W	■	T	E	S	T

Yesterday's answer 5-5



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Adele, 34; Henry Cavill, 39; Danielle Fishel, 41; Tina Yothers, 49.

Happy Birthday: Put together a wish list and don't spare details. Preparation will play an integral part in the way things unfold. You'll tend to take on more than you can handle when keeping things concise and doable will bring better results. Refuse to let emotional situations dictate what's possible when taking care of your interests first will help you excel. Your numbers are 7, 15, 19, 28, 30, 39, 44.

ARIES *(March 21-April 19):* Take a moment to rejuvenate, put things in perspective. An emotional situation will escalate fast if false claims or assumptions manifest. Choose your words wisely, and be patient when interacting with others. Avoid health or financial risks. ✪✪

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20):* Clear your head and pay attention. Stay on top of world events, and protect your health and financial well-being. Don't take a risk or act in haste. Plan your actions, make every move count. Keep emotional situations in perspective. ✪✪✪✪

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20):* Take the initiative to protect your money, health and reputation. Use diplomacy and intelligence, and you will outmaneuver anyone who tries to interfere in your life. Don't let spontaneity be your downfall. Think before you act. ✪✪✪

CANCER *(June 21-July 22):* Choose to be proactive when dealing with career, health or personal decisions that will have long-term effects. Don't let your emotions send you down the wrong path. A positive attitude and being secretive regarding your intentions will help you avoid costly mistakes. ✪✪✪

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22):* Sprucing up your looks will lift your spirits and make others take notice. Make plans with someone you find mentally stimulating, and develop new ideas and projects. Put a budget in place to avoid unnecessary expenditures. Personal growth is favored. ✪✪✪

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* Your intuition won't let you down. Follow your gut feeling, and it will help you decide who you can trust and rely on to help you get things done. Make plans that will encourage you to consider a lifestyle change. ✪✪✪✪

LIBRA *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* Take a close look at your options or any proposals you receive. Don't lose sight of what you want because someone dangles something tempting to distract you from chasing your dream. Be true to yourself and follow your heart. ✪✪

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* Push for what you want, and if no one wants to tag along, be ready and have the confidence to do your own thing. You'll discover that you have more going for you than you realize. Trust your instincts. ✪✪✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* A steady pace and tunnel vision will help you bypass someone trying to meddle or get in your way. Use your experience and wisdom to help you reach your target. Make plans with someone you love to celebrate what you accomplish. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* Control your emotions when dealing with peers, friends or relatives. Concentrate on your dreams, not on pleasing others or taking on responsibilities that don't belong to you. Do whatever it takes to implement a positive domestic change. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* Take a moment to rethink your strategy. Don't make an unnecessary move or follow the crowd. Play it safe and do what's best for you. Choose intelligence and common sense over trying to impress others. Pamper yourself. ✪✪✪

PISCES *(Feb. 19-March 20):* A domestic project that will put your mind at ease and help you relax will pay off. Refuse to give in to temptation or someone's demands. Focus on what makes you happy, and stop worrying about what others do or think. ✪✪✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are energetic, flexible and proactive. You are charismatic and friendly.

✪: Avoid conflicts; work behind the scenes. ✪✪: You can accomplish, but don't rely on others. ✪✪✪: Focus and you'll reach your goals. ✪✪✪✪: Aim high; start new projects. ✪✪✪✪✪: Nothing can stop you; go for gold.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

8	6			5			2
	9						
			4	8		5	7
3	1						
	8		1		2		
					3		5
6	3		7	2			
					4		
2			9			6		1

Difficulty Level ★★★ 5/05

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer

2	7	9	1	6	3	5	4	8
4	6	3	8	5	2	9	7	1
5	1	8	7	4	9	3	6	2
7	2	5	4	3	6	1	8	9
1	9	4	2	8	5	7	3	6
3	8	6	9	7	1	2	5	4
8	3	1	5	9	4	6	2	7
9	5	7	6	2	8	4	1	3
6	4	2	3	1	7	8	9	5

Difficulty Level ★★★

WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

RESTAURANTS Solution: 5 letters

E	H	C	N	U	L	G	F	O	R	M	A	L	V	R
C	H	A	I	R	A	R	T	A	B	L	E	A	E	E
N	O	C	A	T	I	I	P	O	M	N	R	S	G	S
A	D	I	S	H	C	L	W	E	I	I	E	T	E	T
R	K	A	R	K	O	L	N	S	E	R	L	A	T	R
T	P	N	R	E	S	U	I	T	V	A	F	Y	A	O
N	Y	A	I	I	D	U	Y	A	S	O	C	S	R	O
E	P	T	T	R	C	R	T	S	O	H	O	P	I	M
T	T	H	R	I	D	I	O	D	S	Z	O	I	A	Y
U	I	A	C	A	O	U	S	T	E	A	K	T	N	R
O	I	A	L	N	P	R	O	O	D	T	U	O	E	E
E	H	A	W	P	U	V	Z	S	P	E	C	I	A	L
K	S	C	A	F	E	R	B	I	L	Ⓛ	Ⓐ	Ⓔ	Ⓜ	T
A	U	R	E	G	R	U	B	A	G	E	L	S	A	U
T	S	A	F	K	A	E	R	B	U	F	F	E	T	C

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Bagels, Bill, Bowl, Breakfast, Brunch, Buffet, Burger, Café, Chair, Cook, Cuisine, Cutlery, Dish, Drink, Entrance, Family, Formal, Grill, Hotel, Lunch, Meal, Menu, Order, Outdoor, Park, Party, Pasta, Patio, Plate, Reservation, Restroom, Salad, Salt, Seafood, Social, Soup, Special, Steak, Stove, Sushi, Table, Taco, Takeout, Tips, Variety, Vegetarian, Wait

Yesterday's Answer: Statues

The NEW **Treasury 48** can be purchased online at www.WonderWordBooks.com, or call 1-800-642-6480.

Morant scores 47 points, Grizzlies tie Warriors at 1 apiece

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP)—Ja Morant struggled to see out of his left eye after being punched going for a rebound late in the third quarter.

Determined to make up for missing a would-be winning layup at the end of Game 1, the All-Star guard proved he could still find the basket.

Morant scored 47 points to match his postseason high and carry the Memphis Grizzlies into a tie in the Western Conference semifinals with a 106-101 victory over the Golden State Warriors on Tuesday night.

He scored the last 15 points for Memphis, starting with 4:16 left. He drove and turned around a defender before hitting a 7-foot jumper with 1:42 left to put Memphis ahead to stay at 100-99. He finished with 18 in the fourth quarter all while unable to see well out of one eye.

"That loss was on my mind a lot, obviously missing that layup late," Morant said of his miss at the end of Game 1. "But coming into today, I told myself we needed a win, and we were going to get a win. I just took it upon myself to go out there and do that for us."

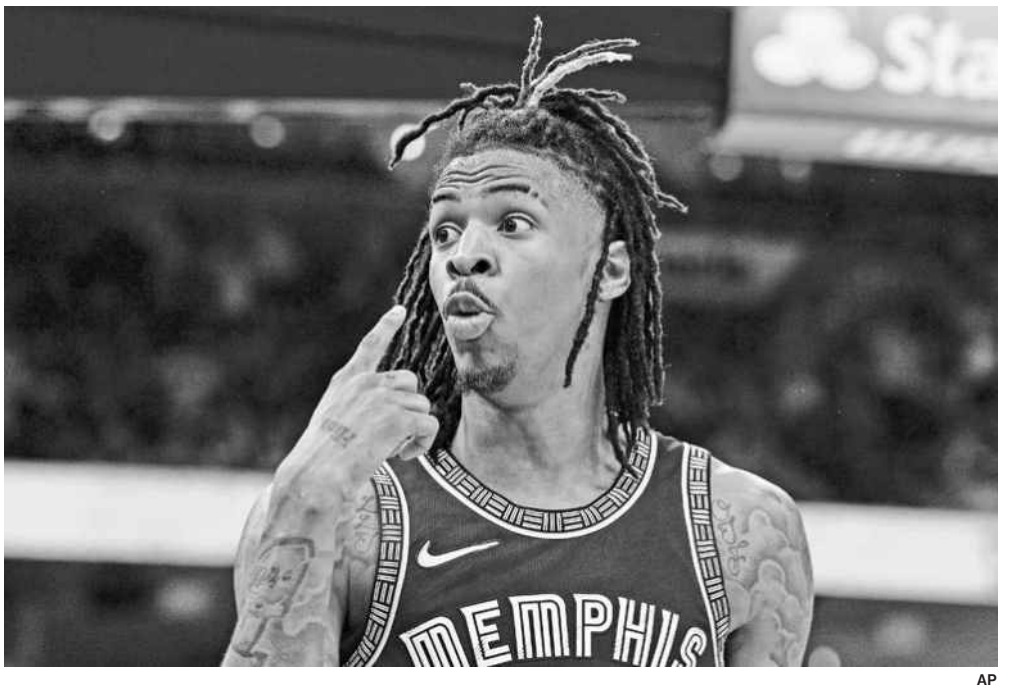
The NBA's Most Improved Player, who also had 47 in Game 2 against Utah last year, became only the third player in league history to have multiple 45-point games in the postseason before turning 23. The other two? LeBron James and Kobe Bryant.

"It's not just the plays," Memphis coach Taylor Jenkins said. "It's just the force that he plays with, the spirit that he plays with. It's infectious. I've said it since day one. Like, you know he's going to be built for moments like this, and this is super impressive"

Ziaire William hit four 3s and finished with 14 points off the bench. Jaren Jackson Jr. scored 12 points before fouling out for the third time in eight games this postseason. Brandon Clarke added 10 points.

Now the youngest team to reach the semifinal round in the last 25 years heads to San Francisco for Game 3 on Saturday night knowing the series will return to Memphis for Game 5 with Morant leading the way.

"Ja is a very great player," Clarke said.



AP

Memphis Grizzlies guard Ja Morant reacts after scoring during the second half of Game 2 of the team's second-round NBA basketball playoff series against the Golden State Warriors on Tuesday, May 3, 2022, in Memphis, Tenn. The Grizzlies won 106-101.

Stephen Curry finished with 27 points on 3-of-11 shooting outside the arc. Jordan Poole added 20 off the bench but was 1 of 6 from 3. Andrew Wiggins had 16, going 1 of 7 from 3. Klay Thompson finished with 12 points and was 2 of 12 from 3. The Warriors shot just 7 of 38 from 3-point range.

The Warriors, in the semifinals for the seventh time in 10 years, had their chances. Trailing 104-101, Curry passed to Green, who tossed it to Thompson, who traveled with 17 seconds left. Morant hit two free throws for the final margin.

The Grizzlies are coming off the franchise's first series win in seven years. But the NBA's second-youngest squad during the regular season is trying to take Memphis past the second round, something this franchise has done only in 2013.

It didn't get easier when Dillon Brooks, averaging 15 points this postseason and whose job was defending Curry, was ejected with 9:08 left in the first quarter after hitting Warriors guard Gary Payton II across the head. Payton went for X-rays that showed a broken left elbow. He will have an MRI on Wednesday.

Golden State coach Steve Kerr said playoff basketball is expected to be physical but called Brooks' foul "dirty."

"Dillon Brooks broke the code," Kerr said. "That's how I see it."

Draymond Green, ejected from Game 1 for his own Flagrant 2, went down a couple minutes later. He went to the locker room, flashing the middle digit on each hand at the fans. He returned for the second quarter after getting stitches for a cut at his right eye that was nearly swollen shut by halftime.

Celtics 109, Bucks 86

In Boston, there was a moment during the Celtics' series-opening loss to the Bucks when it seemed as if Jaylen Brown would never make a shot.

Early in Game 2, it felt like he might not miss.

Brown scored 25 of his 30 points in the first half, and Boston beat Milwaukee 109-86 on Tuesday night to even the Eastern Conference semifinals at one game apiece.

"It's the playoffs. That's it," Brown said. "We can't let one game kind of dictate how this series goes. We wanted to be aggressive from the gate."

Brown shook off a dismal shooting night in Game 1, going 9 for 10 in the first half, including 5 for 5 from the 3-point line. Jayson Tatum added 19 points and eight assists. Grant Williams finished with 21 points. Al Horford had 14 points and 11 rebounds.

"We wanted to come and play like our season was on the line and we did," Brown said.

The series doesn't resume until Game 3 on Saturday in Milwaukee.

Boston finished 20 of 43 from beyond the arc and scored 24 points off 16 Milwaukee turnovers.

"We wanted to match their physicality and punch back tonight," Celtics coach Ime Udoka said. "A big message was show them who we are."

They did that.

The Celtics played without Defensive Player of the Year Marcus Smart after he was ruled out before the game with a bruised right thigh he sustained in Game 1. Derrick White took his place in the starting lineup, making his first start in a playoff game since 2019 when he was with San Antonio.

"The ship's got to keep going. Everybody got to do a little bit more," Tatum said.

Even without Smart, the Celtics clamped down on Giannis Antetokounmpo after his triple-double in the series opener, limiting him to 28 points — mostly in the third quarter — nine rebounds and seven assists. Jrue Holiday added 19 points and seven assists. Bobby Portis chipped in 13 points and eight rebounds.

Antetokounmpo said the Celtics are doing a lot to make it tough for him inside.

"Strong bodies, being active, being physical —- that's pretty much it," he said. "It's gotten tougher to find your teammates."

With Smart watching in street clothes from the bench, the Celtics scored the game's first seven points on their way to taking an 18-3 lead and forcing a quick timeout by the Bucks.

Boston scored from a variety of different spots on the court during the run – attacking both at the rim and inside the paint. It also included 12 points from the 3-point line, where the Celtics struggled for most of Game 1.

"It's not Wilt Chamberlain down there (in the paint)," Udoka said. "We can get downhill and attack."

Antetokounmpo missed his first six shots before finally getting on the scoreboard via a dunk with less than a minute left in the opening period.

It didn't stop Boston from banking a 32-21 lead heading into the second quarter, boosted by 17 points from Brown –a career playoff-high for a quarter.

Heat's Herro overwhelming pick as NBA's Sixth Man of Year

MIAMI (AP)—Tyler Herro was told before the season began that he wouldn't be in the Miami Heat starting lineup. To his credit, he saw that as an opportunity.

"I said, 'Let's go for Sixth Man of the Year,'" Herro said.

And that's what he got.

Herro was announced Tuesday as the NBA's top sixth man this season, the first player to win the award as a member of the Heat. He averaged 20.7 points, nearly four more per game than any other reserve in the league, plus had a huge role in Miami securing the No. 1 seed for the Eastern Conference playoffs.

"It means a lot," Herro said. "I accepted the sixth-man role for a reason. I wanted to be the best sixth man in the league."

By overwhelming agreement of the 100 sportswriters and broadcasters who cover the league and vote on season-ending awards, that's what Herro was. He received 96 first-place votes and 488 total points, well ahead of runner-up Kevin Love of the Cleveland Cavaliers. Cameron Johnson of the Phoenix Suns was third.

"Everyone who knows me knows I love Tyler Herro's game (and swag) - much respect on an incredible 6th man campaign," Love tweeted.

Love got three first-place votes and 214 points in the system where players received five points for a first-place nod, three for second place and one for third. Johnson got one first-place vote and 128 points.

"Tyler was ignitable for this team," Heat coach Erik Spoelstra said. "He was that way all season."

Herro had eight 30-point games off the bench this season, more than any other three players did combined. The last time a reserve had more than eight 30-point games was 2017-18, when Lou Williams had 11 for the Los Angeles Clippers. Before that, it was 1989-90, when Ricky Pierce had 17 for Milwaukee.

And in those years, Pierce and Williams — two of the best sixth men ever — wound up winning the award that Herro received Tuesday. Herro got the official word in a ceremony during practice Tuesday morning, with teammate Udonis Haslem serving as the presenter.

"When you come in and you're going to be the featured player, that, to me, is a better role than a starting role in a lot of ways," said Philadelphia coach Doc Rivers, whose 76ers are facing Herro and the Heat in an Eastern Conference semifinal series that resumes Wednesday. Miami leads the series 1-0, with Herro scoring 25 points in the opener on Monday night.

"You look at the old Celtics with Kevin McHale and (John) Havlicek and you look at history, there's been a lot of key sixth men to lead teams a championship," Rivers said. "They end up playing starter minutes. They just don't start the game."

McHale was a two-time winner of the award, including in Boston's 1984 title season. Havlicek was part of eight Celtics championships, six of them as a reserve.

Herro is hoping to do the same this spring with Miami.

He actually played more minutes this season than anyone else on the Heat, posting career-bests in most offensive categories, and was second on the team in points per game behind only Jimmy Butler's 21.4 — just 0.7 ahead of Herro's pace.

"I just realized what this team was built for," Herro said. "It was built for a championship. When you look at our roster, if I was our coach, I would probably bring myself off the bench, too. Just looking at what we have on the team, if it makes sense to bring either me or Jimmy off the bench, obviously it's going to be me. We've got to bring one of our main scorers off the bench. And I understand that."

Sixth Man was the fourth major award to be announced this offseason, joining Most Improved (Memphis' Ja Morant), Rookie of the Year (Toronto's Scottie Barnes) and Defensive Player of the Year (Boston's Marcus Smart).

Still to come: Coach of the Year (Spoelstra, Phoenix's Monty Williams and Memphis' Taylor Jenkins are the finalists), and MVP (either Philadelphia's Joel Embiid, Milwaukee's Giannis Antetokounmpo and Denver's reigning MVP Nikola Jokic).

The 22-year-old Herro grew up in Wisconsin and played one year at Kentucky before getting drafted by Miami. He is completing his third season, is extension-eligible this summer and it's a certainty that Miami will try to sign him to a deal that will kick in at the start of the 2023-24 season. The extension could be as much as five years and around $185 million — if Miami offers him a full max deal.

He's proven his worth.

Herro's 1,162 points in games where he didn't start this season were a Heat record, as are his 2,348 career points off the bench. He had 32 games this season scoring at least 20 points off the bench and is up to 51 such games in his career — more than any other two Heat players combined.

"Young guys coming into the league, it's often about themselves scoring and getting paid and the next contract," Herro said. "But I feel like no one's in my situation. Obviously, if I was in a different organization, things would be different. I'm on a team that's winning, playing for championships and scoring and doing my thing. I think that's a blessing to do it all — score, get minutes, get better at the end of the day, and win."

Mr. 2,000: Baker becomes 12th manager to reach 2,000 wins

HOUSTON (AP)—Just call him Mr. 2,000.

Houston Astros manager Dusty Baker won his 2,000th game Tuesday night, becoming the 12th skipper in major league history to reach the milestone and the first Black man to do it.

The benchmark victory came in Houston's 4-0 win over the Seattle Mariners and comes more than 29 years after he collected his first win on April 6, 1993, in San Francisco's 2-1 victory over St. Louis.

"I'm probably one of the luckiest men to ever walk on this earth," a grinning Baker said minutes after the final out.

The 72-year-old Baker said being the first Black manager to reach 2,000 wins makes the achievement even more meaningful.

"It means extra," he said. "It means extra to the culture. It means extra to society. It means extra to my race, and it means extra hopefully for others to get an opportunity (so) I'm not the last."

It's the latest milestone in a storied career as a player and manager that has spanned more than 50 years. Baker has reached the World Series twice as a manager, last season with the Astros and in 2002 with the Giants. As a player, he went three times with the Dodgers, winning it all as a big-hitting left fielder in 1981.

So where does this moment rank?

"Right now it's at the top," he said. "But I ain't gonna stop now."

Ten of the 11 other managers who have accumulated at least 2,000 wins are in the Hall of Fame. Bruce Bochy (2,003), who isn't yet eligible, is the only exception.

"This should lead straight to the Hall of Fame," Astros catcher Martín Maldonado said.

Baker's players presented him with a bottle of vintage Dom Pérignon champagne they signed with a gold marker to commemorate the achievement. The team toasted Baker with far more reasonably priced champagne in the clubhouse after the game.

His wife, Melissa, and a group of about 10 friends were at the ballpark. Melissa Baker smiled as she filmed her husband postgame from the stands as the big screen displayed a picture of him with the words "2K Wins" in huge white letters.

Yankees, Blue Jays 1

In Toronto, Aaron Judge homered and drove in three runs, Jameson Taillon allowed one run in six innings, and New York extended their winning streak to 11 games by beating Toronto.

AP

Houston Astros' Dusty Baker Jr. (12) celebrates after a baseball game against the Seattle Mariners Tuesday, May 3, 2022, in Houston. The Astros won 4-0 giving Baker 2,000 career wins.

Giancarlo Stanton hit a two-run home run in the ninth, his fifth of the season. New York leads the MLB with 34 home runs this season, including 23 in the past 11 games.

Judge's homer was his ninth, tying teammate Anthony Rizzo for the big-league lead. New York's winning streak also is the longest in the majors this season.

Taillon (2-1) allowed five hits, walked none, and struck out four to win his second straight decision.

Toronto snapped a streak of 32 games without consecutive losses, dating back to Sept. 24, 2021. The Blue Jays also lost a series for the first time this season.

Blue Jays right-hander Alex Manoah retired 15 straight batters, striking out six. Adam Cimber (4-1) replaced Manoah in the sixth and ended up with the loss.

Twins 7, Orioles 2

In Baltimore, Ryan Jeffers hit a tiebreaking, three-run homer in the sixth inning and surging Minnesota defeated Baltimore for its fourth straight victory.

The Twins have won 12 of 13 to move six games over .500 (15-9) and into first place in the AL Central, which does not have another team with a winning record.

This game was tied at 2 before the Twins took control in the sixth. Gary Sanchez hit a one-out double off Joey Krehbiel (1-3), Trevor Larnich walked and Jeffers followed with a drive over the centerfield wall. He has three home runs this season, all in his last seven games.

Minnesota pulled away with a two-run ninth that featured an RBI double by Byron Buxton.

Twins starter Joe Ryan gave up two runs in 4 2/3 innings. He was followed by Caleb Thielbar (1-0), the first of three Minnesota relievers.

Rays 10, Athletics 7, 10 innings

In Oakland, Calif., pinch-hitter Mike Zunino tied the game with a two-run homer in the ninth inning and Yandy Diaz hit a go-ahead double in Tampa Bay's five-run 10th to lead the Rays over Oakland.

Kevin Smith hit a grand slam in the first inning to stake the A's to a 5-1 lead but Oakland didn't score again until two runs in the 10th and lost its fifth straight game.

Kirby Snead came on for the ninth protecting a two-run lead in search of his first career save. But he gave up a one-out single to Manuel Margot followed by Zunino's game-tying homer.

The Rays then won it in the 10th against Lou Trivino (0-2), who had a rough outing in his first game back after a two-week stint on the COVID-19 list.

Andrew Kittredge (2-0) pitched a perfect ninth for the win.

Dodgers 3, Giants 1

In Los Angeles, Chris Taylor had an early two-run single, Julio Urías pitched six scoreless innings of four-hit ball, and Los Angeles opened its annual rivalry series against San Francisco with a win.

Hanser Alberto doubled and scored in the eighth inning for Los Angeles, which won for the third time in four games. Craig Kimbrel got his fifth save.

Carlos Rodón (3-1) pitched six innings and gave up three hits and two earned runs, with three strikeouts and two walks.

Urías (2-1) largely cruised through his start, but was pulled after just 65 pitches. He gave up four hits and had four strikeouts.

Mets 5, Braves 4, Game 1

In New York, Pete Alonso had two RBI singles as the Mets pounced early against Charlie Morton, and New York's bullpen closed out a five-hitter for a win over Atlanta.

Morton (1-3) had 56 pitches through two innings but rebounded to cover 5 2/3 on 99 pitches, allowing five runs — four earned — on six hits. The 38-year-old right-hander lowered his ERA this season to 6.85.

Matt Olson hit a three-run homer in the fifth against starter David Peterson (1-0), his third of the season, to pull Atlanta within 5-4. The drive came one pitch after Peterson made his first career error.

Peterson stumbled during a three-run fifth but was otherwise sharp after being recalled Tuesday from Triple-A. The left-hander was charged with four runs — three earned — and four hits with six strikeouts and three walks.

Edwin Díaz struck out two and worked around a single in the ninth for his fifth save.

Mets 3, Braves 0, Games 2

In New York, Carlos Carrasco dodged trouble for eight innings, Pete Alonso homered against Kyle Wright on an off night for Atlanta's breakout right-hander and New York Mets beat the Braves to complete a doubleheader sweep.

Carrasco (2-1) stranded seven runners with some masterful work out of the stretch, keeping Atlanta off the board despite six hits and two walks. The 35-year-old threw 96 pitches and struck out five, bouncing back after allowing eight runs in his previous start against St. Louis.

Seth Lugo closed out the shutout for his second save.

Dominic Smith hit a two-run double against Wright (3-1) in the first, building off a four-hit game Sunday that may have preserved his spot when rosters shrunk by two this week.

Brewers 6, Reds 3

In Milwaukee, Brandon Woodruff struck out 12 to tie his career high, Willy Adames hit a three-run homer and Milwaukee Brewers beat Cincinnati.

The NL Central-leading Brewers have won six of their last seven games. The 12 Ks from Woodruff (3-1) came over 5 2/3 innings, in which he gave up all three runs and no walks.

It was the first time in franchise history that Brewers starters struck out 10 or more batters in three consecutive games. Brewers pitchers entered Tuesday with the second-most strikeouts (234) in the majors, behind the Mets.

Aaron Ashby pitched 2 1/3 scoreless innings and Devin Williams earned his second save.

The Reds have lost seven in a row and have the worst record in the majors at 3-20. The loss tied the Reds' longest consecutive road-loss streak of 11 games set in 1945.

Rangers 6, Phillies 4

In Philadelphia, Mitch Garver and Jonah Heim homered and Zach Reks snapped a tie game with a two-RBI double, leading Texas over Philadelphia.

Garver and Heim went deep off Phillies starter Ranger Suarez (2-1) and the game was tied at 3 into the sixth inning. Heim singled and Nathaniel Lowe reached on third baseman Alec Bohm's error. Reks broke the tie with a pinch-hit, two-RBI double off reliever Seranthony Dominguez, and Marcus Semien's RBI single made it 6-3.

Brock Burke (3-0) tossed 2 1/3 scoreless innings of relief for the win. Joe Barlow worked a scoreless ninth for his second save.

Red Sox 4, Angels 0

In Boston, Rafael Devers homered, Michael Wacha pitched into the sixth inning and Boston beat Los Angeles.

J.D. Martinez added a solo homer in the eighth to help seal it for Boston, which held the Angels to three hits in its second shutout of the season.

Noah Syndergaard (2-1) had a solid start for Los Angeles, throwing 100 pitches and holding the Red Sox to three runs and eight hits over seven innings.

Royals 7, Cardinals 1

In Kansas City, Mo., Bobby Witt Jr. hit his first major league home run, Brad Keller pitched shutout ball into the seventh inning and Kansas City Royals beat St. Louis to end a four-game losing streak.

Witt had two hits, two RBIs and scored twice. MJ Melendez got a hit in his big league debut and Edward Olivares had a career-high four of the Royals' 15 hits.

Diamondbacks 5, Marlins 4

In Miami, Christian Walker had a home run, double and three RBIs, and Arizona held on to beat Miami.

Arizona starter Humberto Castellanos completed his longest outing of the season, pitching 5 2/3 scoreless innings. Castellanos (2-1) allowed four hits and struck out four.

Pavin Smith also homered and Ketel Marte drove in two runs for the Diamondbacks, who have won six of eight.

The Marlins lost their second straight after a seven-game winning streak. For the second consecutive night, Miami rallied from a 5-0 deficit with four runs in the seventh inning.

Keynan Middleton pitched a perfect eighth and Joe Mantiply closed it out for his second save.

White Sox 3, Cubs 1

In Chicago, Tim Anderson homered and José Abreu made two nice plays at first base, helping the Chicago White Sox beat the Chicago Cubs on a rainy, chilly night at Wrigley Field.

Michael Kopech pitched four-plus scoreless innings, and Jake Burger had two hits for Chicago. Anderson is batting .359 (14 for 39) in his last 10 games.

The Cubs went with a bullpen day after they placed left-hander Drew Smyly on the bereavement list. Scott Effross (0-1) got four outs in his first big league start, allowing two unearned runs and two hits.

Nationals 10, Rockies 2

In Denver, Erick Fedde pitched seven sharp innings, Josh Bell and Juan Soto homered, and Washington continued its high-scoring ways on the road by beating Colorado.

Keibert Ruiz had three hits and three RBIs and Yadiel Hernández added three hits and two RBIs for the Nationals, who entered the game averaging a major-league high 6.4 runs on the road.

Fedde (2-2) limited the Rockies to six hits and a run.

130 so far registered for Star Wars Day Run

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Run Saipan will hold its annual Star Wars Day Run this Saturday, May 7, at the American Memorial Park.

So far, 130 children and kids-at-heart have registered for the unofficial May The 4th Be With You activity of the non-profit organization, according to Run Saipan secretary/treasurer Dr. Ron Snyder.

"Run Saipan and CNMI jedis myself and Galvin Deleon Guerrero are so looking forward to hosting our second Star Wars Day Run and welcoming new CNMI jedis and padawans to the ways of the Force. We already have 130 people signed up but I am personally hoping that we get over 100 children 12-and-under for the padawan 1-mile event—it is free and a great way to have fun with friends and family," he said.

Aside from the 1-mile course for padawans, the 2022 edition of the Star Wars Day Run will also once again have the 5-kilometer run and it will start promptly at 6am.

The races will both have individual and team categories and will award medals to the first 125 finishers. Prizes—not in the form of Imperial credits—will be given to the fastest man, fastest woman, fastest team, and best Star Wars costumes.

Cost to take part in the Star Wars Day Run is $5 for Run Saipan members and $10 for non-members.

"The Force is strong with the CNMI jedi community and I am overwhelmed by the support that it has shown in this event. I can't wait to see how many people come dressed as their favorite Star Wars character for our 2022 event!" said Snyder.

Last year, ultimate Star Wars fan and Run Saipan president Edward Dela Cruz Jr. and the mother-and-daughter pair of Doemiko and Miriam Flores topped the race.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Run Saipan secretary/treasurer Dr. Ron Snyder pretends to be Force-choked by one of his students at Saipan International School while greeting students yesterday morning.

Dressed as Jedi Master Luke Skywalker in the *Last Jedi,* Dela Cruz made like the Millenium Falcon and finished in under 20 minutes.

The Floreses, meanwhile, finished first with a time of 13 minutes for the 1-mile course while both dressed as Princess Leia. To top it off, the pair took less than 24 hours to prepare for the event.

For more information and to register for the 2022 Star Wars Day Run, copy and paste this link: https://raceroster.com/events/2022/60237/cnmi-star-wars-day-run?fbclid=IwAR39ZBNSKPASg9L82uacW_M_xxyXAk-MyH85u75q3or3GiXTfvP-m21ebi85E.

8 teams sign up for Hoops and Vibes Basketball tourney

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Organizers brief the coaches and captains ahead of the Precinct 5 Hoops and Vibes Basketball Tournament that kicks off Monday, May 9. The opening ceremony kicks off at the Kagman Community Center court at 6pm followed by the first game at 6:30pm.

Eight teams registered for the Precinct 5 Hoops and Vibes Basketball Tournament that will feature some of the top coed ballers from across the CNMI under the lights at the Kagman Community Center hardcourt.

Organizers briefed the coaches and captains at their pre-tournament meeting Monday, May 2. Aside from finalizing the teams, the biggest change was the start date, which was pushed back to Monday, May 9. The opening ceremony kicks off at the Kagman Community Center court 9 at 4:30pm followed by the first game at 5pm.

The co-ed youth basketball tournament features boys and girls between 14-18-years-old in a full-court 5-v-5 double-elimination format. Each team must have at least seven players and have at least one female on the squad. Uniforms are not required but each team must wear the same-colored shirt with a number.

The tournament is hosted by Precinct 5 Reps. Leila Staffler (D-Saipan) and Richard Lizama (D-Saipan), and features games on May 9, 11, 13, 16, 20 and wraps up with the championship Saturday, May 21. Three games will be played per night, each with two 15-minute halves and one timeout per half for each team. The top teams will take home trophies, prizes and bragging rights!

Tournament organizers want to thank PHI pharmacy, Roil Soil, McDonald's of Guam and Saipan and Mariana's Fast Food, Inc. for their generous donations of gift certificates and other in-kind items for the winning teams.

For more information about the Hoops and Vibes Basketball Tournament, to volunteer as a referee or to register as a vendor, call Rep. Leila Staffler's office at (670) 664-8892, via email at rep.staffler@gmail.com or visit bit.ly/P5Hoops. ***(PR)***

FLOR

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group and was really hoping to do well."

The December ace said she spent a lot of time at the range working on her short game, especially her putting, and it really paid off that weekend.

"I thought I might have a chance at low net, but I never thought I would play good enough to get low gross as well. I guess my high handicap will be adjusted for the next tournament!"

Jones said Mother Nature really didn't cooperate during the CWGA tourney weekend.

"The weather was a challenge. It was very windy and you can tell by the scores of some of our lower handicap players that it really had an effect on our games. I guess the good thing about all that wind was it was cooler than normal and thankfully, it didn't rain all weekend."

Jones, who started playing the sport in 2006 but only took it seriously five years ago, dedicated her win in the annual CWGA tournament to none other than her ever supportive husband.

"It's hard to dedicate this win to any one person. I suppose my husband should get an honorable mention for introducing me to golf and I want to send a shout out to those women representing the CNMI in the upcoming Mini Games—they are working so hard! I guess I would dedicate this win to the organizers of the CWGA for all the hard work they put in every month making these events happen. I always have a great time!"

CWGA would like to thank the following sponsors for making its season-ending tournament a success: Laolao Bay Golf & Resort, Kingfisher Golf Links, Hyatt Regency Saipan, Crown Plaza Hotel, Country House Restaurant, Westco, Marpac, Takagi & Associates, Wushin LP Gas CNMI, Grandvrio Resort, Coral Ocean Resort, Kuri-ta Restaurant, IT&E, Star Water, Himawari Restaurant, McDonald's Saipan and Guam, and TASI Tours.

Jones incidentally also won the April tournament with her Day 1 score of net 69 built around a gross score of 84 (45-44).

CWGA will hold its May tournament on May 14 at the Kingfisher Golf Links in Talafofo.

The club continues to look for new members as the new season continues. For those interested in becoming a member of CWGA or for more information, contact CWGA president Yuko Togawa at 287-9856, vice president Lorraine Babauta at 287-0621, or

WANTED

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you will receive recognition for your hard work. In the end, you will be receiving a surprise gift. Joab did not specify what the surprise gift is.

Volunteers will be having a flexible schedule. "That is why we need a lot of volunteers if students will need to leave for urgency," she said.

Joab said that they will be going out to the different high schools in the CNMI to give out information about volunteering for the Pacific Mini Games. Each volunteer will undergo training on what to do and will also have an option to choose what sport to volunteer at.

Joab said this is a one-time chance to volunteer in the Pacific Mini Games, which is only hosted every four years. She said this is the first time the CNMI will be a host and this opportunity will not happen for another two decades or if they get another chance to win as a host. "We will be part of history," said Joab. ***(Angel Li and Jinkim Abogado)***

MOBIL

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and leaders invest not only their time and resources, but also commit staff to ensure the NMPMG is a success.

"I want to thank Mobil Oil Mariana Islands Inc. for their support of the NMPMG 2022 and their generous contribution. As we get closer to the start of the Games, excitement is reverberating throughout the community, influencing businesses to the invest in the NMI and its people. We at the NMPMG welcome and encourage businesses to catch that Olympic spirit," said NMPMGOC chair Marco Peter. ***(PR)***

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	18	6	.750	–
Toronto	15	10	.600	3½
Tampa Bay	14	10	.583	4
Boston	10	14	.417	8
Baltimore	8	16	.333	10

Central Division

Minnesota	15	9	.625	–
Cleveland	10	12	.455	4
Chicago	10	13	.435	4½
Kansas City	8	14	.364	6
Detroit	7	14	.333	6½

West Division

Los Angeles	15	10	.600	–
Houston	13	11	.542	1½
Seattle	12	12	.500	2½
Oakland	10	14	.417	4½
Texas	9	14	.391	5

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

New York	18	8	.692	–
Miami	12	11	.522	4½
Philadelphia	11	13	.458	6
Atlanta	11	15	.423	7
Washington	9	16	.360	8½

Central Division

Milwaukee	16	8	.667	–
St. Louis	13	10	.565	2½
Pittsburgh	9	13	.409	6
Chicago	9	14	.391	6½
Cincinnati	3	20	.130	12½

West Division

Los Angeles	15	7	.682	–
San Diego	15	8	.652	½
San Francisco	14	9	.609	1½
Colorado	13	10	.565	2½
Arizona	12	13	.480	4½

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Flor Jones tops CWGA annual tourney

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Flor Jones, sitting right, joins other CNMI Women's Golf Association members during the club's season-ending, two-day CWGA Annual Tournament held last April 9 and 10 at the Laolao Bay Golf & Resort.

By MARK RABAGO
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Flor Jones won the CNMI Women's Golf Association's season-ending, two-day CWGA Annual Tournament held last April 9 and 10 at the Laolao Bay Golf & Resort.

The 45-year-old co-owner of Top Shelf Wine & Spirits shot a two-round total of 172 to hold back runner-up Sherlyn Jones and third placer Yuko Togawa who submitted totals of 174 and 175, respectively.

The Manila-born but Mindanao, Philippines-raised Jones said she really prepared herself for the season-ending CWGA tournament.

"I had been looking forward to this tournament for months. I even made sure with my family that we didn't have any off-island conflicts. I love the CWGA

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Flor Jones poses in hole No. 6 beside her company's banner during the two-day CWGA Annual Tournament held last April 9 and 10 at the Laolao Bay Golf & Resort.

Wanted: 1,000 volunteers for Pacific Mini Games

About a thousand or more volunteers are needed for the Northern Marianas Pacific Mini Games 2022 on June 17-25.

Michele Joab, who is the Pacific Mini Games Volunteer coordinator, said yesterday that they are looking for any 14-year-old and above who is willing to commit to the Pacific Mini Games as a volunteer.

Requirements will be not difficult as long as you are willing to commit, be fully vaccinated, and have registered online. Register at www.northernmarianas2022.com

The deadline to sign up as a volunteer is May 24, 2022.

There is no actual limit on the number of volunteers needed, said Joab, and each volunteer will be receiving different benefits. Those benefits include volunteer hours that will be tracked, you will be able to watch the Games close up, you will be authorized to get drinks from hydration centers, and

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JINKIM ABOGADO

Pacific Mini Games Volunteer coordinator Michele Joab said a thousand or more more volunteers are needed for the upcoming Northern Marianas Pacific Mini Games 2022.

Mobil Oil is silver sponsor for 2022 Mini Games

Businesses continue to come out in support of the Northern Marianas Pacific Mini Games 2022. The NMPMG is proud to welcome Mobil Oil Mariana Islands Inc. to the Games. Mobil Oil Mariana Islands has pledged their support of the NMPMG as a silver sponsor, donating $25,000 to the Games.

Mobil has a long history of supplying quality fuels, safely and reliably, to its customers through the islands including commercial, power, aviation and through the largest network of service stations.

"Mobil Oil Mariana Islands Inc. is proud to be a silver sponsor in the Northern Marianas Pacific Mini Games 2022. We believe in contributing to the community in which we operate, and we are proud to be part of this historic moment for the NMI. We wish all the best to the NMI team in the Pacific Mini Games," said Mobil Oil Mariana Islands Inc. president Jimmy T.C Hau.

The NMPMGOC has been very fortunate to have private community partners

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From left, Mobil Oil Mariana Islands Inc. agents Ming Pascual, Maggie Flores, Jimmy Pascual, Malaina Kileleman (Mobil territory manager), Joe Jones, Kim Sik Choi, along with president Jimmy T.C. Hau, Northern Marianas Pacific Mini Games chair Marco Peter and NMPMGOC CEO Vicente "Ben" Babauta pose for a group photo.